The German Tribune

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C 20725 C

oles' economic discontent nplies political disapproval



ss than a fortnight ago Chancellor Villy Brandt signed the Bonn-Warsaw y in the Polish capital. Poland is hitting the headlines.

s time however the news is not of ssful foreign policies but of a serious al crisis in the People's Republic of d.

izens of several Polish towns had d to the swingeing increases in food- s with open rebellion and violence ding arson and plunder.

State defended itself with its most me means and made use of its arms. were killed or wounded.

attribute the crisis to economic is right and wrong at the same It is right because an increase in rices is an economic problem. It is very good advertisement for the acy of the Communist economic that an agricultural country like

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quately equipping police not been done fast enough

is obviously not able to provide its tion with cheap food.

wrong because there are no sectors Communist State that are not ced by politics in some way. unist States are not described as rian regimes for nothing.

in western States the government bears indirect responsibility for appens in the economic sphere, ics is an important field of ac- or Communist governments.

is extent, economic issues there litical issues and economic grie- are above all political grievances n have an *extremely* direct in- on the population's attitude not only to their government but also to the Communist system in general.

Because of the absolute rule of Communist governments and their resulting absolute responsibility for all sectors of life, they are in greater need of the safety valve of criticism and channels to correct their policies than democratic governments whose range of activity is far more restricted.

The fatal error in the structure of Communist governments is that their absolute power is coupled with an almost complete suppression of all criticism. There is hardly a legal way to express discontent at the government's individual decisions even.

Grievances therefore mount, giving rise to a situation where there has to be an explosion. This explosive criticism linked with violence is the only possible way that a person who is not in a position of authority can express his criticism under Communism.

Unlike people living in a democracy, Poles cannot express discontent non-violently, though effectively, by voting for another party at the next election.

The many other possibilities that persons in democratic countries have to express their opinions in public are barred to people in a Communist state. They cannot risk more than an impotent whispering campaign.

The events in Poland are a typical example of explosive criticism. It appears that, unlike for example the Hungarian uprising of 1956, feelings have not yet reached a pitch where there is a general rejection of the Communist system.

At present criticisms are directed against the price increases ordered by the government, though reports are still sketchy.

But in Szczecin there were more radical objections against the regime. On a tank used to suppress demonstrations in the town demonstrators had chalked "We want freedom of opinion."

But apart from slogans of this type, it will always be difficult to judge for certain the extent to which the general pent-up feelings against the regime influenced a demonstration against one particular measure.

The Polish unrest also raises other questions that have not yet been explained. Why does it seem to have been restricted to the coast and the ports? Why is there no news of unlawful assembly or plunder in Warsaw or the industrial area of Upper Silesia around Katowice where workers suffered just as much from the increase in food prices? Can this be attributed to the fact that the ports are traditionally assembly points for rebellious elements?

When explaining the unrest, the Polish government took refuge in helpless sounding phrases such as the claim that bandits and criminal elements misused the originally peaceful demonstrations to their own dark ends.

It is possible that the underworld shared in the plundering but this is not sufficient to explain the whole movement of revolt.

What is more, the authorities responded to the population's violent criticism with violent suppression. As the government has more effective weapons in its clash with the population, the final outcome can be forecast with a fair degree of certainty. An outward state of calm will probably be restored. Speculation about a basic change is therefore certain to be wide of the mark.

Here and there reaction in this country to the events in Poland were mingled with a certain amount of pleasure that Willy Brandt's new treaty partner had suffered a sensitive attack of weakness. You see what sort of people the mini-coalition government is dealing with, people crow.

But people thinking along these lines have missed the point of the Bonn-Warsaw Treaty. It is meant to bring reconciliation between the two peoples, an aim far surpassing the domestic situation of the two partners.

Fritz von Globing
(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 19 December 1970)



Sports awards for 1970

Hans Fassnacht was elected Sportsman of the Year by over 500 sports writers in this country. Swimmer Fassnacht was unable to attend the awarding ceremonies in Baden-Baden because he was detained in Long Beach, U.S.A. Sportswoman of the Year was light athletics star Heide Rosendahl (right). Ingrid Mickler-Becker came second. Popular footballer Uwe Seeler (centre) was chosen second in the men's list.

(Photo: Horstmüller)

Gierek replaces Gomulka after Polish troubles

Afflicted by Stalinism ever since the end of the Second World War, the Polish people helped Wladyslaw Gomulka on his path to power in 1956 and hailed him as liberator when he was proclaimed the leader of the People's Republic of Poland.

Now a People deeply disappointed equally by Communism and Gomulka look on unmoved as their former idol departs the political stage with magic long gone.

The departure of Gomulka and his three closest colleagues (not including Jaszczuk) underlines the negative balance of a policy that recently led a state of near civil war.

It is however to Gomulka's credit that he resigned after meeting political failure, thus saving his people and the world from the tragedy of a bloody struggle for power.

Gomulka survived his greatest triumph in foreign policy, the Federal Republic's recognition of the Oder-Neisse line as the western frontier of Poland, by only a few days.

Gomulka's economic policy brought about his fall. Walter Ulbricht has long accused it of being ideologically illogical. This was because Poland is the only communist country not to have collectivised agriculture.

The country ran relatively efficiently so long as high yields could be announced. But two bad harvests threw the economic structure into confusion. Gomulka had to apply the emergency brake and increase prices for the food items that were now in short supply.

Gomulka's successor, Edward Gierek, is thought of as an energetic man. Gierek worked for many years of his life as a Communist in Western Europe.

Since returning to Poland, he has made Silesia and Upper Silesia into model provinces. The largest harvests were gathered here and the best results in industrial production recorded. It is not yet known whether the Kremlin can consider Gierek to be its man in Warsaw.

(DIE WELT, 21 December 1970)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Polish resettlement talks get off to a promising start

DIE ZEIT

The talks on so-called humanitarian improvements that are to follow in the wake of the treaty with Poland have got off to a promising start.

Representatives of the Federal Republic Red Cross returned from the first round of talks in Warsaw secure in the knowledge that the Polish Red Cross has every intention of showing good will and generosity in rejoining families separated as a result of the war and in dealing with applications for exit permits by Poles of German descent.

This good will is particularly important in view of the mandate to negotiate and hence far-reaching powers of decision that have been delegated to the two Red Cross organisations. Government authorities are merely to implement their decisions.

This is a far cry from the way applications have been handled in the past, though at one stage, between 1955 and 1959, families were rejoined on a large scale under the aegis of the Red Cross in the two countries.

During this period some 250,000 people headed west, mostly by special train. Since 1959, however, the Poles have only allowed individuals to leave the country. They established complicated application procedures and drastically high passport fees that represented such an obstacle to repatriation that the Federal Republic Red Cross was only able to help in individual cases.

Even in these difficult circumstances a further 118,000 German nationals were able to join their relatives in this country but the procedure became so protracted that many applicants, even if they did not abandon the whole idea, would have had to have waited till Doomsday before standing any chance of leaving.

The newly negotiated procedure holds forth the promise of less bureaucracy and a considerable acceleration of the process.

This acceleration and the numbers involved may, of course, complicate matters. The information bulletin on measures designed to solve humanitarian problems issued by the Polish government during treaty negotiations in Warsaw refers to a few dozen thousand cases.

The Red Cross in this country, on the other hand, has 90,000 cases on its books that by the terms of international Red Cross agreement concluded with the Polish Red Cross in the 1955 that unquestionably belong to the categories qualifying for repatriation on family grounds.

These five groups are: husband to rejoin wife or vice-versa, children to parents, parents to children, sick or invalid persons or persons living completely isolated lives in Polish surroundings and hardship cases such as war widows with pension rights in this country.

The Red Cross also has details of 180,000 other people who at some time or another have applied for resettlement in this country without having relatives here or belonging to any of the five categories already mentioned.

These 270,000 people of German descent again represent only a good quarter of Germans still living in Poland, according to a number of estimates that tally. Their total number is roughly a million.

In theory they are all entitled to apply for exit permits now that the Polish government has adopted the view that "persons who in view of their unquestionable German status may do so provided they abide by Polish laws and regulations."

What is more, the situation of mixed families is now to be taken into account and the option favouring Poland that has been adhered to in the past is now to be disregarded.

No one knows, of course, just how many applications will be submitted now that the regulations have been relaxed. There is no way of telling how many of the 270,000 applications so far submitted – some of them up to ten years ago – are still relevant. They may have died or changed their minds.

And there is even less likelihood of an accurate forecast as to the number of people who will submit additional applications after having so far considered it either pointless or inopportune to apply.

So despite good will on Poland's part the eventual number of applications may yet develop into a problem, particularly as the Poles appear anxious to deal with the matter swiftly and without much ado.

Many Poles will be put out by the fact that travel restrictions are to be lifted for German nationals of all people. The government can expect dissatisfaction among both Party members and the general public.

The larger the number of applications the more difficult it will be for the Polish authorities to reconcile their desire to deal with matters both swiftly and unobtrusively.

As for this country no one is too keen on exaggerated acceleration of the procedure, partly because not only jobs but also housing must be found for the newcomers and partly because it is felt that applicants must be allowed time to consider whether they really want to start again from scratch in this country or would do better to stay in Poland.

What decision is an Uppor Silesian family to take, for instance, when the husband is German, the wife Polish and the children in the middle of secondary education at Polish schools?

Cautious hints by this country that resettlement might lose its attraction for many Poles of German descent if certain minority rights were to be granted them – schools and clubs of their own, for instance – have so far met with no response whatsoever from the Poles.

Bonn is nevertheless convinced that this topic will appear on the agenda sooner or later. The Poles are equlaly unenthusiastic about liberalisation of travel and holiday visits by relatives, which would also make the problem of whether to leave the country or not far less urgent for many Poles of German descent.

As soon as it is a matter of going into details it is already apparent how interminably difficult it is going to be to overshadow the past and breathe life into the treaty, as Willy Brandt put it.

Red Cross delegations

Even so, the talks have got off to a promising start. At the beginning of December the two Red Cross delegations agreed on a definition of the terms "unquestionable German nationality" and "the feeling of belonging to this category."

Both sides agree that there can be no final and binding ruling on the matter and that the declaration of intent by the individual applicant must be the criterion, stating which language is spoken in the family, what language the parents spoke and which schools they went to prior to 1945.

Some indication of the Polish readiness to meet this country half-way is that these three criteria are not to be absolute either. They must not all three be fulfilled to prove German nationality. Each is to be assessed in relation to the other two.

At the next round of talks between the two Red Cross delegations in January application and processing procedures and monthly exit quotas are to be discussed.

Carl-Christian Kaiser

(DIE ZEIT, 18 December 1970)

Czech purges continue without abatement

When the Czech Spring of 1968 came to an abrupt end with the Soviet invasion that autumn the new leaders, headed by Slovak Gustav Husak, tried to make the transition easier for the general public.

An assurance was given that individuals active and methods prevalent under the previous Stalinist President Novotny would not return.

A number of standard-bearers of "socialism with a human face" even retained their posts. Others, including reformist Party leader Alexander Dubcek, were only gradually degraded, though they were eventually stripped of all their posts and expelled from the Party.

This fate has now also befallen ex-Premier Oldrich Cernik, who only half-heartedly cooperated with Dubcek, having held government office under Novotny too.

During the year of reform he opposed radical plans for economic decentralisation as advocated by Ota Sik, the theoretician of a socialist market economy.

As head of government he nonetheless bore partial responsibility for many of the measures taken during the reform period. Even though he had attempted to slow down developments in 1968 he must, in the final analysis, have supported the trend.

Quietly but efficiently countless lesser officials have in recent months been replaced by more willing aides of the new Moscow line, amongst them the entire leadership of the remaining German community whom Husak himself had encouraged to extend their national autonomy.

An estimated 300,000 people have been expelled from the Communist Party, though the present leadership has not allowed show trials to be staged.

But far more students are sent down from university than under Novotny. Government officials and journalists who supported the reforms are given the sack. "The revolution is consuming its own children again," Director of Public Prosecutions Hübl, who recently resigned, comments.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 18 December 1970)

Brezhnev Doctrin[e] queried by Nato

SüddeutscheZeitun[g]

After the Rome conference
North Atlantic Council this
the Italian government was comm
to inform the Warsaw Pact c
through direct diplomatic chan
Nato resolutions and views on
laxation of tension.

Following the Brussels meetin
Nato council it is the Belgian
ment's turn to convey the latest
tion, while at the same time co
the bilateral probes Nato has en
member-countries to make.

Nato has clearly stated the co
under which it is prepared to
general security conference – an
what the entire process of glea
conveying information is about.

One main stipulation is a sati
solution to the Berlin problem,
the Nato demand that agree
reached between East and Wes
sovereign equal rights of all cou
non-intervention, territorial inte
"the right of the population o
country to determine its own fa
from external compulsion" is o
fundamental importance.

In words of one syllable this m
information must be gleaned a
Brezhnev Doctrine before a secu
ference can be held.

The word glean can be interp
variety of ways but what i
involved is the key question in
security, that of the interpretati
concept of equal rights.

To consider defence of the s
an ideological, geographical an
clude the right to carry out an i
in the case of Czechoslovakia is
standards of justice and under
eral security.

The logical corollary is that
too is entitled to demand and fe
right to intervene in deviating
Bilateral probes do not, o
involve discussion of the
Doctrine since Moscow denie
such thing exists. It may not
proclaimed as such but it is
practised.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 8 De

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■ POLITICS

Published balance sheets reveal secrets of party affairs

SüddeutscheZeitung

The paragraph in legislation obliging political parties to publish details of
[th]eir funds has brought to light a para-
[d]oxical state of affairs.

Until we had this paragraph 23 and the
[le]gislation passed in 1967 there were
[st]rong demands from many quarters that
[pa]rty finances should be brought into the
[glare] of publicity; so much so that the
[im]pression might have been gained that
[fo]r the parties to be fair and above-board
[al]l that was needed was for their finances
[to] be aired in public.

Now that the parties' annual balance
[sh]eet is published by the President of the
[Bu]ndestag once a year in the *Bundes-*
[an]zeiger no one but a few experts takes
[an]y notice!

This is not to say that the idea of
[int]roducing compulsory revelation of
[par]ty funds and how they are spent was
[po]intless, incorrect or senseless.

It was in fact a step along the way
[to]wards making the workings and internal
[af]fairs of establishments of State more
[co]mprehensible to the general public,
[so]mething that is still essential in all but a
[fe]w cases.

It is just possible that one or two
[fig]ures might in exceptional cases be
[re]ferred back and in cases of doubt an
[en]quiry might be held.

The so-called HS 30 Affair in which the
[Chr]istian Democrats and Christian
[Soc]ialists were accused of having received
[pa]yments for government contracts
[co]uld have been cleared up much more
[si]mply if records of party finances were
[av]ailable.

We must, however, not expect too
[mu]ch from these party balance sheets.
[Th]ey are so to speak the outcome of
[che]cking the till. The auditor does noth-
[ing] more than to say that the books are in
[ord]er.

However, the legislation states that
[or]dinary citizens who contribute more
[th]an 20,000 Marks in any one year to any
[pa]rty and any person in the legal profes-
[sion] who contributes more than 200,000
[Mar]ks must be registered, giving his full
[na]me and address and the amount of
[mo]ney contributed to party funds.

Nevertheless there are of course possi-
[bi]lities for these people to retain a certain
[deg]ree of anonymity.

For example the Christian Social Union
[..]. register rang up the sum of 2.1
[mil]lion Marks in 1969, donated by a
[gro]up of Bavarian citizens working as a
[reg]istered society, and with headquart-
[ers] in Munich.

The same group contributed 270,000
[Mar]ks to the Free Democrats. This
[reg]istered society describes its function as
[bei]ng to channel payments from Bavarian
[ind]ustrialists to the parties they support.

The Social Democrats also have their
[an]onymous benefactors. There are three
[fun]ds going for them, two worth over
[..]000 Marks and another worth 25,000.

As for the Christian Democrats they
[..] societies, working groups and
[cit]izens' organisations providing them
[wi]th funds which are really little more
[th]an intermediary sifting stations to see
[..] contributions reach them without
[the] identity of donors being divulged.

Nor should we forget the former
[Min]ister of the Interior, Paul Lücke, who
[don]ated 67,750 Marks to the funds of his
[par]ty, the CDU, in 1969.

Bundesanzeiger No. 230, dated 10
December 1970 in which the parties published their finances for the year 1969 does not give a very good general picture of party funds, since 1969 was the general election year and a great deal of extra money changed hands in the election campaign.

Judging on the year before that, it is still State contributions that make up the greater part of contributions to party funds, although these pan out in different proportions to other sources of party incomes.

The Social Democrat party with its 800,000 members is still the party that provides the greatest amount of its own funds. The other parties have to boost their own comparatively low personal donations with contributions from other sources or credit.

SPD members stuck twenty million Marks-worth of subscription stamps on their membership cards in 1969. Bundestag members provided 5.5 million of this sum; 22.3 millions came from national funds.

From CDU members just over eleven million Marks were contributed to the party cause. The national funds provided 16.3 millions.

Impressive information was supplied by the balance sheets for 1969 on the debts run up by parties that receive too little from their members for an election campaign.

The FDP had to borrow seven million Marks, more than three times the amount contributed by party members.

The CDU had to ask for 4.7 million Marks to be put on the slate. Only the SPD, whose leadership did not have to borrow a pfennig, and the CSU which needed only about half a million Marks on loan did not get into heavy debts.

Of all the parties the CSU received the greatest amount of private donations. The CDU received 14.4 million Marks, about half the amount received from members' contributions. Of the 11.6 million Marks donated to the SPD a considerable amount is thought to have come from party members.

Just what financial straits the FDP is in is shown by the fact that it is the only party whose private contributions figure (in 1969: 4.3 million Marks) is lower than the amount borrowed and that the amount of contributions in that election year was only twice as much as the year before, whereas the CDU and CSU enjoyed three times as much for their election campagning.

These figures also divulge one or two secrets about party structures and only the SPD has a well-balanced financial situation.

In the CDU and FDP credit charges are chalked up against headquarters which then has to pass them on to the Federal state party organisations. The central offices of these parties lose out on the disproportionate sharing of donations as well. The only exception to this is the CSU where the state leadership received 5.2 million of total donations of 6.5 million Marks.

The figures in this latest report show that the Constitutional Court's decree that parties may draw only the costs of their election campaign from State sources is of purely academic interest.

Since the CDU, CSU and FDP drew half of their expenditure from State sources in 1968 and one third in 1969 this shows that election campaigns demand higher contributions from party members, but also proves that running costs have to be met by public money.

Klaus Rudolf Dreher

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 15 December 1970)

For NLA read DLP

NLA, National-Liberal Action, which is being formed on party lines in January 1971 would like to be known as a middle-of-the-road patriotic party.

The expression "patriotische *Mitte*" first appeared in the recently published draft of a preamble to a party programme for the NLA, drawn up by the leadership of the new political force.

This text will be presented on 9 January to a national assembly of National-Liberals for their approval. This preamble and the main points of the party programme are the outcome of discussions that have taken several weeks.

At the discussions the draft programme was formulated by the leadership of the NLA, which will probably be named "The German Liberal Party" (Deutsche Liberale Partei) when it is formed on party lines.

The proposed preamble for the DLP programme runs thus:

"The party will pursue the aim of forming a much-needed patriotic middle-of-the-road party in order to protect our freely elected democratic order from extreme left- and extreme right-wing sabotage attempts.

"This party recognises and upholds parliamentary democracy and calls for the restoration of German unity in freedom and peace as laid down in Federal Republic Basic Law.

The party upholds the right of every man and woman to personal freedom and development as one of the greatest features of our cultural system. We regard it as our duty to protect the rights of the individual against threats imposed by today's collective powers in the State and in society and to give every individual the opportunity to develop his own personality. The freedom of one individual should only be limited when it endangers the freedom of another."

(DIE WELT, 18 December 1970)

Civil servants ask for salary anomolies to be eradicated

Civil service salaries are a tangled web, a labyrinth in which only experts can find their way about. But as a round of salary talks for civil servants is due about the turn of the year the government is being forced to take hasty steps.

The Opposition, however, while recognising the need for speed in making this complicated system more simple is tempering its movements with caution and calling for a "convincing general concept" before approving any reform.

It is not only a question of the salaries of officials in the central government, which it is planned to raise by a nominal seven per cent, and including all the various bonuses an actual nine per cent, from January onwards.

Also involved in this controversy is the attempt to bring the various civil service payments in the central government, the Federal states and local governments under one common denominator.

This in turn involves an alteration to a section of Basic Law requiring a two-thirds majority in the Bundestag and thus the support of the Opposition.

The general authority for civil service payments which was given to the central government within the framework of the finance legislation reforms last year has proved to be a half-hearted solution and the confusion about civil servants' salaries goes on. The central government is now striving to obtain the opposing autority and hence full legislative powers.

But the government's proposals appear to be lacking and weak to the CDU/CSU who are talking of an opportunity missed.

The reform does not provide for a graded plan in easy stages, but intends to make a clean sweep. In this game of chess the Opposition has made a clever move and got to grips with the proposals put forward by Hans Dietrich Genscher, the Minister of the Interior, in August. Genscher came a cropper with these proposals in the cabinet room. Finance Minister Alex Möller said No.

The ball is now in the government's court. If the government accepts the original Genscher proposal it will receive the two-thirds majority required for the amendment to Basic Law, but it will than have to exceed budgeted limits by 800 million Marks.

If the government takes a firm line the whole business will be postponed for some time and the Coalition can be sure that civil servants will be peeved.

If the Federal states were to accept the proposal that the matter of civil servents' pay should be exclusively a question for Bonn to decide it would be a glorious moment in what has been called "co-operative federalism" ever since the finance reform.

It is not merely a matter of chance that there is preparedness to take this drastic step since the situation in Federal state offices whereby extra pay and perks buy the good-will of provincial assembly civil servants has been reduced to absurdity.

Not only provincial assembly governments but also the whole parliament in some Federal states have been involved in such dealings. The most striking example of this was in Wiesbaden with the question of judges' salaries.

When teachers in elementary schools were given a position higher up the ladder high-school masters became worried that they would no longer be specially rewarded for their longer study period.

Then the police became involved. Their salary boost caused officials in tax offices to turn greedy eyes, since they felt that this was discrimination against them ...

Apart from the various anomalies within the Federal states there are also inter-state anomalies with poor areas such as Schleswig-Holstein and the Rhineland Palatinate paying some of their civil servants more than prosperous Federal states.

Even more bitterness and resentment is aroused when civil servants in a Federal state receive more than their counterparts working for the central government. On average there is a five per cent advantage in being a fish in a smaller pool.

These anomalies are rubbed in all the harder on the occasions where the official in a finance office working for the central government is in an office right next door to his counterpart working for the Federal state!

Then there are the rivalries between local government officials and the men who work for the Federal states. There must be binding regulations affecting salaries in central, Federal state and local governments.

Injustices are also perpetrated at all three levels by disguised forms of salary raise such as promotion before it is due.

Furthermore civil servants get even more disgruntled about their treatment when they compare their pay scales with those they would get in industry. No one would consider their feelings amiss, but it should also be borne in mind that they do have certain advantages from their position.

These anomalies must be eradicated by giving Bonn full powers to determine civil service salaries.

The tactics of party politics have made it all the more difficult to come to a decisive conclusion, but this is just a short entr'acte in the Bonn play.

Wolfgang Höpker

(CHRIST UND WELT, 18 December

■ MEDIA

Deutschlandfunk broadcast 642,345 minutes last year

The youngest broadcasting station in the Federal Republic is also one of the smallest, but it broadcasts to listeners not only of events in all the Federal states but reaches into the "all-German reality", giving a "comprehensive picture of Germany" according to its senior officials.

Its broadcasts can be heard throughout Europe and the audience it aims at is Germans living outside the Federal Republic.

Deutschlandfunk (DLF) was called into existence by a law passed in 1960, as was Deutsche Welle for overseas broadcasts.

It first started broadcasting on 1 January 1962, employs about 600 people and is currently based in one-time private houses and rented new buildings in Marienburg, an affluent suburb in the south of Cologne.

Its transmits German-language programmes day and night without break on five wavelengths and a further six and a quarter hours a day in fourteen European languages.

The Post Office is continually extending the network of transmitters but it is not sufficient to carry out political functions. In the German Democratic Republic for example Deutschlandfunk has long been viewed as an important Western contribution to everyday life.

Statistics show that the station broadcast for 642,345 minutes last year, including 116,745 minutes of foreign-language broadcasts.

The aims are not only far-reaching as regards area. The content too differs from that of the normal home stations. DLF does not aim at minorities at home and does not provide children's, women's or schools' broadcasts. The two Federal stations Deutschlandfunk and Deutsche Welle are not included in current proposals for correspondence courses on the air.

While the home stations have the twin function of catering for the needs of all minorities if possible and giving priority to the educational prerequisites and demands for entertainment by the mass of the population, Deutschlandfunk only takes account of what is important in providing a comprehensive picture of Germany.

This principle demands a high degree of quality, political responsibility and objectivity. This is what gives DLF its particular attraction, despite the lack of its own drama department or orchestra.

Another attraction is the hourly news service (altogether there are 29 news broadcasts on a weekday) followed by reports of breakdowns and conditions on trunk roads.

There is admittedly occasional criticism of the sterility and strictness that creeps into the programme. Within the station itself there is a tendency to adapt various features of its quickly-gained individual style to the demands of contemporary taste.

Reports and commentaries should be easy to understand and include live interviews, though always taking into account the poor concentration of modern man.

The switch of priorities in cultural affairs policy abroad after the change of government here in 1969 is also reflected in the programmes transmitted by DLF.

As the culture department of the Foreign Office has decided to invite more foreign groups to the Federal Republic instead of organising so many representative events abroad, a broadcasting station will always find it difficult to provide inside information for people of other nationalities in a comprehensible form.

But DLF does try to "inform all neighbouring peoples continually about its problems, its state of affairs and its aims" in a programme for Europe containing newscasts, commentaries, a look at the press, interviews and reports from all spheres of political economic and cultural life.

The foreign language editorial staffs – teams composed of both German-speakers and people from the country concerned – always adapt to the interests and mentality of their listeners.

Since the autumn of 1969 DLF has also been transmitting language courses. Once a week the station broadcasts a fifteen-minute lesson drawn up by the Goethe Institute for each linguistic region.

An obvious question is whether the Brandt government's Ostpolitik has changed the all-German intensions of Deutschlandfunk.

Franz Thedieck, the former State Secretary in the Ministry for All-German Affairs who took over from the station's original director, Dr Starke, in August 1966, has stated that this is not the case.

An East-West editorial staff has been in existence for one year to counteract the idea that the bridge with the other part of Germany is one-way. As much information as possible is collected from the other side through newspapers or magazines for instance.

An exchange of tapes or manuscripts is not possible as long as this material is used only to slander the Federal Republic.

The balance of its news programmes has sometimes given rise to the suspicion that DLF was a government station and, on the other hand, made it the target for the attacks of the governing party as it also transmitted programmes that were unwelcome to it.

Three dangers could threaten DLF in a time of political unrest:

1) A political imbalance in the composition of the controlling boards, the Broadcasting Council and the Administrative Council. The Broadcasting Council consists of 22 members, six appointed by the Bundestag, six by the Bundesrat, five by the government and one each by the Protestant Church, the Catholic Church, the Central Council of Jews and the Federal Alliance of Employers Associations and Trades Unions. The Administrative Council consists of seven members, elected by the Broadcasting Council. All posts are for a four-year period.

2) An active personnel policy by political parties. The DLF would also be affected by a move of this type.

3) The temptation of its staff to use the medium to intervene actively in political events with their own opinions, likes or dislikes, as Director Thedieck put it.

Because of the increasing polarisation of political opinions, this temptation has become greater. An analysis of the motives of the staff in broadcasting stations, especially the younger members of an editorial staff, would be rewarding.

They often come to a broadcasting station without any journalistic training and without any prospect of getting any, are fascinated by the technology but disappointed by the administrative hierarchy, minor aspects of their work and the fact that organisation and administration is more their function than creative work.



A model of the new Deutschlandfunk station to be opened in Cologne, designed ... Professor Gerhard Weber (Photo: Archiv Handels...)

They often see their only remai... room for manoeuvre in provocatio... process that has its parallel in the w... schooling of youth in contrast to... ability to express oneself in writing.

At the other end of the age scale t... are now fewer people who try to hid... fact that they are becoming older – a... a difficult problem in this professio... by adopting a pose of forced moden...

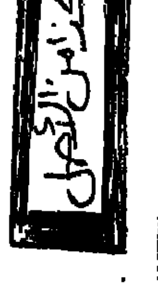
The financing of the station ... fortunately supports the (false) claim... Deutschlandfunk is a government t... mitter.

The law guarantees the station's ... dependence but does not mention ... question of finance. As the money ra... by radio licences goes to the Fe... states and the home radio stations, ... states agreed to pay DLF a sum ... totalled 28 million Marks in 1970 wh... was fixed at only 25 millions a year f... 1966 onwards.

The station's extra financial dem... (seventeen million Marks this year) h... be covered by special Federal cre... Even in the station's ninth yea... existence it is hard to say whether ... when Deutschlandfunk will be ... independent of the government's bu...

Marianne Kottha...

(Handelsblatt, 15 December ...)



The supreme courts: their verdict is irrevocable

Large sections of the population are still rather in the dark about the importance and the functions of the Federal Republic's supreme courts. The fact that both the Federal Constitutional Court and the Federal Court of Justice are based in Karlsruhe has often caused further confusion.

The Federal Constitutional Court defends the constitution, Basic Law. It is the highest court in this country and independent of all other constitutional organs such as the Bundestag, the President and the government. It consists of two chambers, each with eight judges.

The Federal Constitutional Court rules on all disputes between the central government and the Federal states and between private persons and the authorities, arising from Basic Law.

It also examines whether laws passed by the central government and Federal states are compatible with Basic Law, whether parties are democratically consituted or acting against Basic Law and whether they have to be banned.

Individuals can appeal to the Federal Constitutional Court for protection against arbitrary action by the authorities.

Anyone who believes that his basic constitutional rights are being violated can make a constitutional complaint when all other legal opportunities such as the regular courts are exhausted. The verdicts of the Federal Constitutional Courts have the force of law.

There are sixteen constitutional judges. The Bundestag and the Bundesrat each appoint eight of the judges – they are not appointed via the normal channels of promotion.

The Bundestag has now decided that the length of an appointment will be twelve years and has set a retiring age of 68. In future each constitutional judge will be able to have his vote recorded when he is outvoted on a verdict.

The Federal Court of Justice is also based in Karlsruhe and is the final court for cases brought before civil or criminal courts.

If a civil case has gone to the supreme court of the relevant Federal state or a criminal case has gone to the assize court or Supreme Criminal Court, the only subsequent appeal court is the Federal Court of Justice.

It is the highest court for normal jurisdiction, apart from the special jurisdiction of the labour, social, financial and administrative courts.

For these sectors there are the Su... Courts of Justice – the Federal ... ministrative Court in Berlin, the Fe... Financial Court in Munich, the Fe... Labour Court in Kassel and, al... Kassel, the Federal Social Court.

The Federal Court of Justice has ... penal chambers (including one in Be... and nine civil chambers. The Fe... Court of Justice also has a Monop... Chamber and a number of special c... bers for disciplinary procedure ag... judges, lawyers and solicitors a... others.

Each chamber has five judges. ... judgments of the Federal Cou... Justice form a precedent and are bi... on subordinate courts.

The Federal Court of Justice is als... first and only court for cases of end... ing the state, sabotage of vital ... institutions, defamation of the Pres... or the flag or parliamentary co... There is no appeal against these ve...

All the Supreme Federal Cour... connected by a joint chamber of su... courts of justice in Karlsruhe. This ... preserve conformity in the administ... of justice.

This Joint Chamber ensures th... further court is not needed in a ca... can only be appealed to by one o... supreme courts of justice and aft...

Continued on page 5

■ BOOK REVIEWS

Exile groups in Britain during World War II

German Socialist Exile Groups in ...eat Britain from 1940 to 1945" by ...erner Röder in a series of works by ...e Research Institute of the Friedrich ...ert Foundation. Published by the ...erlag für Literatur und Zeitge...chehen, Hanover. 322 pages. Price 32 ...arks.

The title of the book being reviewed is ...as undramatic as the style of the ...thor who collected this hitherto un...blished material for his dissertation on ...rman exile organisations in Great Bri...n during the Second World War.

Röder's report is as concise as it is ...passionate. Only rarely does he depart ...om the documents, letters, publications ...d the minutes of the frequent meetings ...f these people exiled from Germany.

This is good for the objectivity of his ...ook, but it only occasionally suggests ...e drama contained in these documents ...hen read in a wider context.

The author wisely kept to the limits set ...im by the material which is why he ...anaged to "complete the known facts in ...heir first comprehensive form".

Röder deserves credit for this. Today ...nly experts specialising in the history of the Socialist movement remember the ...xile groups and their leaders who played ...role in Britain during the Second World War.

There was the Sopade, the Social Democrat Party Executive, called PV for short because of the general love of abbreviations.

There was the NB, the New Beginning, the German Socialist Labour Party (SAP), and the International Socialist Combat Alliance (ISK).

Among the many other groups were the German Communists who had not fled to the Soviet Union.

New groups were set up in exile – the German People's Socialist Movement (DVB), the Freedom League of German Socialists (FDS) and, outside the range of the book, middle-class exile organisations such as the German Freedom Party, the German Human Rights League, the German Renovation Group or the Free German Cultural League. There was the Group of Independent German Authors, the 1943 Club.

Finally there were the attempts – characteristically vain attempts – to include all exiles in a Free German Movement.

This all sounds confusing and it is not the author's fault that readers find it hard to get straight all the clashes on aims, the differences of opinion and peronal animosity expressed in the letters and notes.

Sometimes new groups were set up that were often no larger than "penclubs changed into organisations" with new names and new publications that usually had a short life.

The reader even gets the impression at times that the author wants to do these people, who were isolated, condemned to political ineffectuality and forced into exile, a service, however late, by conferring upon their memory a historical rank that their political actions and declarations failed to achieve despite their despairing efforts.

Röder's report gives a number of reasons for this. First there was the moral formalism of the party executive that felt itself bound to aid its members from March 1933 and was determined to restore them in a formal act after liberation.

But this forced it into a sterile inflexibility, especially as connections with members who had stayed at home were finally cut on the outbreak of war, and paved the way for a whole series of moves by those exiles who wanted a party in its own right.

The executive thus renounced any room for political manoeuvre and could only justify its position by dogma. In this it only continued a good old Socialist tradition of burning itself up in ideological debates. The only difference this time was that people with varying political opinions now consolidated themselves in groups with their own names.

Then there was the Communist opposition to any move aiming at unification, especially after the entry of the Soviet Union into the war released them from the infamous compulsion of supporting Hitler and opposing their host country.

Finally mention must be made of the isolation within the British population that increased as the war continued. Over fifty per cent of the population were opposed to the German Socialists to some degree or other and even the Labour Party shunned their influence completely.

It was therefore little wonder that even the more liberal Socialists toyed with the idea of making allowances for Communist participation in the unity they hoped for.

But then for the first time the exiles gained a hearing with one of the powers at war. Though even today we know little about the motives, the Soviet Union agreed to the wishes and ideas of the exiles.

This was very much in contrast to the British government who at most used individual exiles as spokesmen or authors of their propaganda against Hitler.

Now even war aims were drawn up by people like Victor Schiff spurred on by the Russian-sanctioned support of the German Communists. They had as their content nothing less than the "territorial integrity of the Reich" in the frontiers of 1933.

But that understandably remained a mere episode and all efforts towards unity also failed. Only under the direct pressure of the Red Army in the Soviet Zone of occupation did they have any success – however dubious.

After the War was over only a few members of the old party executive and other exile groups returned home to Germany. These included Willy Eichler, von Knoeringen, Erich Ollenhauer and Erwin Schöttle, to name the most famous.

The main force behind the reconstitution of the Social Democratic Party had not been in exile but had spent many years as a prisoner of the Nazis. This was Kurt Schumacher and he had other things in mind than unification with the Communists.

There is a certain touch of tragedy in this result of the Socialist emigration. But it need not weigh heavily on the SPD today and it must not be allowed to, especially as a frank, undogmatic politician like Willy Brandt has become party leader.

But people should not lose sight of it as it helps to relativise the unchanging regularity of Socialist calculations of the future which are still used in arguments today.

Politics needs dogma-free room for manoeuvre and that is why Werner Röder's book is so useful and its many, often forgotten details so interesting.

Ernst Wilhelm Graf Lynar

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 December 1970)

Federal Republic unable to defend itself, new study claims

It is easy to say that this country's Bundeswehr is an army for peace but unfortunately it is not so easy to understand. Some people find this description rather cynical as they believe that armaments and armies have always unleashed conflicts or at least helped them on their way.

Other people find the phrase "soldiers of peace" to be an unnecessary complication of the simple fact that armies have to fight and defend.

This second attitude admittedly avoids a more exact definition of the word defend. With the means of annihilation at our disposal defence can soon become self-destruction. The picture of war that so many people speak of is not all that clear.

One of the most violent discussions on the nature of war was provoked by the Ministry of the Interior in 1961 when it published its ideas on protecting the population.

Criticisms expressed in a memorandum issued by the League of Scientists (VDW) and in a Bundestag hearing maintained that the government was basing its arguments on one fixed idea of what war would be like and was not paying any attention to other possibilities.

The VDW suggested to the Volkswagen Foundation that there should be an investigation into the consequences various types of war would have on the Federal Republic.

Six years' work was spent on the investigation and the results are now available. They are to be published in January 1971 by the Carl Hanser publishing concern of Munich in a collected volume edited by Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker and entitled *The Consequences and Prevention of War*.

The writers must have realised that they had to attack two popular practises more than anything else – comparing a future conflict with experiences from the Second World War and the other extreme of claiming that nuclear destruction is unpredictable.

When assessing possible damage, the research team concentrated on "estimating the condition of population, buildings and economy in our country after the use of weapons of known average total effect". The bases for calculations of this type are known. The researchers therefore "only" had to provide the results.

But this work developed its own laws of dynamism. It proved that it presupposed certain facts about political aims and strategy and it also became plain that "a study of the consequences of war automatically led to a study of the prevention of war", as Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker writes in his introduction to the analysis.

Without taking the present political situation into account, the team considered four forms of conflict – a fight for regionally limited aims in the Federal Republic; the attempt of an enemy to conquer the Federal Republic; the attempt to destroy the country physically and finally a war that was only part of a larger conflict between the world powers.

Many people may consider the overall results of the analysis to be alarming. The Federal Republic has no defence against any of the above-mentioned threats, if defence is defined as the ability to prevent an enemy by using military means from carrying out a threat he is determined to carry out, even when making allowances for the large-scale damage he may suffer.

In other words, the Federal Republic cannot be defended. But it is stressed in the study that our military security does not depend on our capacity to defend but on our capacity to deter.

The Federal Republic cannot prevent an enemy from conquering or destroying her but she can threaten the enemy within the framework of Nato that the costs of such a step would be incalculable

Süddeutsche Zeitung

and could stretch as far as the enemy's own destruction. Weizsäcker claims that our chances of surviving a war are so minimal that we must prevent it at all costs.

In recent years we have placed most of our hopes on the logic of the systems of nuclear threat. But we were later made uneasy but critics who said that the positive stabilising factors of the balance of fear also had negative aspects, sociological and psychological results.

The Weizsäcker study is more cautious on this point. But it too points to the weak point of nuclear strategy – its credibility.

Horst Afheldt in particular drew the reader's attention to the critical area between the extreme conflicts – between an overall nuclear attack on Europe and a limited conflict with conventional methods.

Afheldt says that, on the one hand, the assumption of escalation leading to mutual destruction lessens the credibility of the threat because of the dimension of the catastrophe.

On the other hand, the assumption that there is little likelihood of escalation (and a fixing of the limits of escalation) undermines the threat and allows war to be considered once again as a serviceable means.

Afheldt says that this basic dilemma cannot be eliminated by combining conventional defence and the nuclear deterrent as envisaged in the case of the Nato strategy of flexible response.

With all due respect to its important function, mention must also be made of this strategy's precarious emergency solution character, especially as the further technical development of nuclear weapons – multiple warheads and missile defence systems, for example – acts as a further instability factor on the sensitive overkill balance.

Sphinx-like and pessimistic, Weizsäcker ventured a forecast for the future of this process: "The further technical development of the weapons offers at best the prospect that the present degree of security preventing a world war will be preserved, but it also contains a series of opportunities worsening it."

Christian Potyka

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 16 December 1970)

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decision proceedings are continued by the court submitting them.

The five heads of the supreme courts of justice are members of this chamber along with the heads of the chambers concerned, a judge from the chambers concerned, one from the chambers of the court of justice submitting a case and one from the chamber of the Supreme court of justice from whose decision the court submitting material wishes to depart. In special cases the number of members can be increased.

Because the functions of the supreme courts of justice are so clearly delineated the Joint Chamber only rarely needs to be asked for a decision.

But the Joint Chamber is an important point of contact between the courts, enabling conformity of legal administration. This means that the very important "Law for the Preservation of Conformity in the Legal Administration of the Supreme Courts of the Federal Republic" is being carried out.

Dr Otto Reismann

(WELT DER ARBEIT, 18 December 1970)

■ READING

Book clubs stress the entertainment idea in their fight for survival

Between 1967 and 1969 book clubs lost from 35 to 43 per cent of their market. The triumphant progress of the book clubs in the fifties has been checked and their dominant position in this country's literary world has been challenged.

The time of almost unlimited expansion is over. "The market has become sparser," said Manfred Fischer of the Bertelsmann concern when announcing the firm's cooperation with the Deutsche Buchgemeinschaft.

That was six months ago — the last step for the time being on the path of increasing monopolisation. Bertelsmann paid twenty million Marks for a fifty per cent share.

At present the programme and the organisation are still separate but it is likely that the Deutsche Buchgemeinschaft will be incorporated into the Bertelsmann Readers' Circle.

The situation of the book clubs is no longer as good as it was. The costs involved in recruiting just one member often total 100 Marks or more, exceeding the limits of profitability.

But the book clubs need new members as fluctuation is high and as many as fifteen per cent of members may leave in a twelve month period.

The present situation is that the membership total is stagnant, if not on the decrease, and that there is increasing monopolisation.

The reasons for this can only be guessed at. Looking at the market statistically, every member of the population must have been a member of a book club at least once, if not more times, in his life. The market is therefore exhausted.

Another reason could be that the programme of the book clubs is aimed at a diminishing section of the public. Perhaps readers' demands and interests have changed.

Book clubs seized upon the idea that people treated books as a fetish of learning. Shelves full of heavy tomes bound in leather and gold became a symbol of education and learnedness.

Every thought, every fact could be set down in print and bound into books. Knowledge became a possession that could confidently be carried home.

But as learning, once the domain of a privileged class, gradually grew into a consumer article, its exclusive character was lost, as was the whole concept of learning.

Signs of learning deteriorated into superficial status symbols, the goal of the petit bourgeois mentality that sought conformity and social ascent.

That was the age of the book clubs. Their petit bourgeois origins have not been completely overcome even today. The Büchergilde has done most to leave this image behind, the Deutsche Buchgemeinschaft the least.

Book clubs are making a mistake now if they rely on status symbols and educational prestige. As the social situation changed, the book lost nearly all its value as a status symbol. The flood of paperbacks was the first sign of this.

Books are today more than ever a means to an end which can be stimulation, entertainment or information. It stands alongside other media and can only assert itself by adapting to the needs of the reader.

In future the average reader will probably only gain something from reading if the amount of time and concentration is outweighed by pleasure.

The book has two powerful competitors — the audio-visual media on the one hand and the illustrated magazines and cheap novels on the other.

If Hans Magnus Enzensberger is correct in his *Stepping Stone to a Theory of Media* (published in Kursbuch, 20 Marks), the book has already played out its role as a bearer of information and a means of entertainment.

The future belongs to the audio-visual media. Compared with them the book has the advantage of not being bound to time or place.

Technical developments are on the point of eliminating the reliance of the audio-visual media on time and place. But this process will presumably take longer than the fans of the audio-visual media believe, especially as the question of price plays a decisive and as yet undecided role.

Another advantage of the book is that reading does not disturb other people.

As far as periodicals are concerned, ten publishing concerns publish 87 series of comics, war stories or romantic novels. The annual production is estimated to be 357 million copies, more than six times the number of copies of literary works that appear. Fifty million illustrated magazines must be added to this figure.

Already the reading of most of our contemporaries is restricted to these magazines and cheap novels that can be easily consumed and are readily available unlike media that are bound to time and place.

Books, like magazines, are not bound to a particular place but they do normally require greater attention and greater concentration.

A survey has shown that 32 per cent of this country's population — a figure totalling eighteen million people — did not read a book in 1967 and that 28 per cent of all households do not own a single book.

Book clubs know that the door to a bookshop is a psychological and social barrier to many potential buyers. Attempts by the book trade to popularise bookshops have never been completely successful as bookshops did not want to surrender their intellectual pretensions and always placed great value on preserving the differences between a book shop and a supermarket.

Book clubs exploited this situation. The market today is dominated by Bertelsmann and the Deutsche Buchgemeinschaft with a combined total of almost five million members, the Deutsche Bücherbund with 1.2 million and the Büchergilde with 300,000.

Subtracting the 2.3 million members of Bertelsmann's book clubs abroad, that leaves four million people in this country who are members of a book club.

The last survey on the book-purchasing habits of private households revealed that bookshops registered 36 per cent of total sales, book clubs 35 per cent and department stores thirteen per cent. One book in three is sold by a book club.

Department stores are now placing more emphasis on selling books. Last year Kaufhof alone had a 23 million Mark turnover in this branch.

An estimated seventy per cent of all literary works are sold via a book club. The programmes of the book clubs are aimed at readers who have an unconscious fear of bookshops or can never be bothered to go to one.

On the positive side, they like the way the books are sold, the cheaper prices and the easily accessible information on books that interest them.

They are at a loss when confronted by the jungle of the free literary market but the illustrated book club magazine turns the inapproachable world of literature into a cosy home.

Members of book clubs want first to quench their thirst for entertainment. Mere entertainment and diversion can be supplied more quickly and more cheaply by cheap novels and the mass media.

It is probably in the field of entertainment that books will first have to surrender their once dominant role. The decrease in the number of this type of book at the book fairs is probably symptomatic.

The only chance for the book's continued existence is for it to supply information, analyses and critical studies, thus compensating the reader for the effort he has put into it.

This is the case with the popular works of non-fiction, contemporary prose and sociological and anthropological studies.

What books do the book clubs offer their readers? Entertainment is dominant. The Deutsche Büchergemeinschaft has the largest proportion of entertainment with 51 per cent, followed by Bertelsmann with 46 per cent and the Bücherbund and Büchergilde each with 35 per cent. These figures are supplied by a consumer association (Warentest).

The combined proportion of literary works totals seventy per cent while the comparable figure in the publishing houses is only fifteen per cent.

What is entertainment literature? The Bücherbund describes it as "hard facts, mercilessly frank" or "passionate, deeply emotional and intimate novels" or as a "powerful cocktail for sagging laughter muscles."

But unfortunately the cocktail is n… watery. All the successful authors a… in book club lists with their bestsel… Eric Malpass, J.M. Simmel, Anne G… Arthur Hailey and John Knittel are j… few of them.

There are also names that are… famous though just as popular — Vic… Holt, Marie-Louise Fischer or Ang… Jordan with the ten-volume series, G… *Lovers*.

Book clubs still deal in social no… love stories, "his" and "hers" no… bound in leather and embossed in gol…

Trivial literature still forms the b… and only occasionally does a wor… Boris Pasternak or Günter Grass achie… successful breakthrough. Works by Ka… Brecht and Joyce should not be allo… to conceal the fact that the book cl… still make most of their money … works like *Angélique*.

Book clubs often claim to cater … clusively for the wishes of their read… This is true in-as-much as they … those demands that they previo… aroused.

It is an illusion to believe that … reader is allowed to remain compl… uninfluenced — the decision to buy … mainly determined by reading the … lustrated magazines issued by the b… clubs.

Anyone reading one of these magaz… will soon realise that they are not lit… books but entertainment magazine… which information does not always … priority.

The books are not arranged in subj… but according to emotional criteria. … table of contents only rarely gives … information on a book and its aut… They are usually no more than pun… or emotionally phrased commendati…

All book clubs have a program… policy. One example is the system … recommended volumes. Members o… book club promise to select and purc… a volume every quarter, otherwise t… are sent what is described as the r… recommended volume.

The number of members making us… their right of selection varies a lot. O… only seventy per cent of Bücherbund … Bertelsmann members make use of th… right whereas the figure for the Büch… gilde, where reminders are sent out, … per cent.

If thirty per cent of all members … sent the recommended volume t… means, in Bertelsmann's case, … 600,000 copies are sold. This is a fi… publishers dream of.

It can be assumed that the fe… recommended volumes readers are … the better the programme of a book clu… is — readers have been able to make th… own choice. Bücherbund offer 600 boo… and Buchgemeinschaft and Bertelsm… 700.

Book clubs should awaken fresh lit… ary interest and quench the thirst f… knowledge and information in their p… gramme and magazines.

But it scarcely turns out this w… Readers' favourite habits are intensi… and encouraged by spotlighting bo… that promise success.

There remains the impression that … programme is dominated by mat… designed as pure entertainment or e… tional satisfaction while analytical a… informative literature is represented … only a few works, if any.

High sales are recorded for works … entertainment. Among the millions … copies of recommended volumes se… readers there are few running contra… an average consumer's habits.

It would be silly to blame the boo… clubs for this. After all they must st… balance between profit and educati… The situation only characterises rea… and reading material in the Fed… Republic. The near future could how… show that book clubs are antiqu… institutions.

Ulrich Grei…

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Ze… für Deutschland, 11 December 19…)

New O'Casey translation imperfect

Sean O'Casey and his contemporaries have never made a real breakthrough in this country as audiences have a hard time understanding the mixture of burlesque comedy, human tragedy and political background that is peculiar to their plays.

As that is partly due to the antiquated vocabulary of the translations available, the Stadttheater in Aachen used a new translation for their production of *The Plough and the Stars*, the ballad of the 1916 Easter Rising.

Volker Canaris and Dieter Hildebrandt did not change the dramatic structure of the play at all but concentrated on penning a text appropriate to the intellectual and social position of the characters.

But they did not manage to avoid all the purely literary metaphors and antiquated idioms that have robbed the play of all its credibility up to now. But this new version is decidedly better than older translations.

Georg Immelmann's production was convincing in the comic passages and the scenes where characters give full vent to their temperament. But it did not manage to express those periods of natural despair.

The tragic strain often seemed contrived and was occasionally embarrassing as there was a lack of human dimensions. Convention dominated in the arrangement and characterisation of the people involved.

Werner Schulz-Reimpell

(DIE WELT, 24 November 1970)

■ THE ARTS

Old Italian paintings at Stuttgart

Stuttgart's *Staatsgalerie* boasts an impressive newly opened Italian and Flemish department. The first thing that strikes the visitor to this new gallery is a couple of paintings of the Apocalypse on wood, rectangular, with dark blue background and stony-grey brownish "islands".

One of these was bought by the Museum from the collection of Graf zu Erbach-Fürstenau and the other is a temporary loan.

These pictures which heresay tells us were brought by a brother-in-law of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe from Italy were hanging recently in Darmstadt.

They are by no means unknown and art historians and scientists have estimated that they originated in Naples between 1330 and 1340.

A fresco in the Neapolitan church of Santa Maria Donna Anna dating from about twenty years earlier provided the example for the island-like scenes. Fascination with the Apocalypse was strong in the fourteenth century particularly in the ruling house of Anjou in Naples.

This is as far as art historians can go in making these unique attempts comprehensible and tying them in with other works. They are connected by no unity of composition and are simply a string of works one after the other connected only by an invisible thread which the initiated alone can recognise.

The places in the Scriptures from which these scenes are drawn is explained by Anna Gret Schmitt in the *Pantheonheft* for November/December 1970. She also explains which miniatures were influenced by these tableaux. But apart from that their enigma remains unsolved.

In a gallery of early Italian works which the *Staatsgalerie* in Stuttgart has already opened these works would immediately stand out even if they were not placed as centrepieces. They would be rather like a unicorn in a well tended garden.

They are much smaller than one would have imagined from photographs, but their monumental effect has no connection at all with Giotto and Simone Martini who both produced works at that time along the lines of Lorenzotti.

Thereafter for at least five centuries paintings of this kind showed the conflict of space and depth. The three-dimensional aspects are turned into flatness but they are not negated.

On the Erbach — or as they are now called Stuttgart — *Tafeln* there is no unity of space, the visual angle alternates and in some cases even individual figures such as the Four Horsemen placed in the background stand out each separately.

Perspective is used to make a house a house a city a city but not in order to create depth.

The first wood painting has a central group with a judge ruling over all the world, similar to the fresco that I have already mentioned.

There is nothing of this kind on the second of the two paintings on wood at the Stuttgart gallery.

On this one the quality of the painting reaches its greatest refinement, particularly in its applications of colours and above all the reds, greens and gold.

On both of these two paintings on wood the way individual figures are made to stand out in an aura of light which is produced by leaving the chalky background is a particularly beautiful effect.

Everywhere in these two works where the vision surpasses all imagination the quality of the unknown painter comes out at its strongest.

Whether these paintings on wood were executed on a conventional church commission or whether they were privately commissioned is something that remains in doubt, particularly with regard to their unusual format.

It is also unknown whether there were ever comparable works in Naples. So much of the artistic production of that time has not stood the test of time and has been destroyed.

The impression that these works are something exceptional for that place and that time is borne out by the peculiar characteristics of the painting technique. The groups and figures seem to be sunken into the dark blue and not raised and outstanding.

The timeless flood that swills around these swimming islands of angels, dragons, raging fires, moribund cities and the like is unrecognisable as a datum plane.

The extreme refinement of this conception and the way it has been executed ~~gives an air of grandeur to the negation of~~ the great contemporaries of this unknown painter including Giotto who also worked in Naples. In the development of miniature painting on wood these two works, without doubt, form an impasse, but it is a regal road.

In Stuttgart these two works have for the first time been placed in a chronological context, as I have already said. At the moment the number of paintings from the fourteenth century is small, but it has been conceived with the prospect in mind of a considerable legacy.

Baron von Preuschen, a notable art collector and for many years chairman of the Stuttgart Gallery Society, has bequeathed his collection to the gallery.

All in all the gallery of the Old Italian and French painters has made many new acquisitions. These include many overdone Baroque pieces. And many very dubious works have disappeared into the depths of the storerooms. Other works have emerged into the light of day again and many that conform to modern ideas have been acquired.

There are three galleries with Italian works and three with Flemish, running parallel to each other, leading to a great gallery with four Schönfeld works as the dominating works in the room.

Other works of note are a portrait of Nattier and a self-portrait by Luca Giordano.

The new exhibition in the Stuttgart gallery is not perfection and has one or two thin spots and one or two presumably unavoidable compromises.

One charming and surprising acquisition of the past eight years is Rubens *Alte Dame mit jungem Mädchen* and from the old stock a stoning of Saint Stephen by Carpaccio.

It was a fortunate inspiration to provide a view through from the gallery of early Italians to one of the finest acquisitions of more than 200 years ago, Memlings' *Bathsheba*.

Clara Menck

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 8 December 1970)

The Apocalypse done on wood in Naples in the fourteenth century, art experts believe

(Photo: Staatsgalerie Stuttgart)

Nuremberg celebrates 500th anniversary of Dürer's birth

Celebrations in Nuremberg to mark the 500th anniversary of the birth of the city's most famous son, Albrecht Dürer, began recently with a performance of Arnold Schoenberg's *Moses and Aaron*, speeches by the Federal Chancellor, Willy Brandt and an address by Dr. Alfons of the Bavarian government.

By granting a special financial allocation for this occasion of approximately six million Marks the city fathers of Nuremberg planned to give the city a new image for next year.

"The city of the Reich Party congresses" is to become a city of pilgrimage for admirers of Dürer from all over the world. An advertising agent in Munich is being given one million Marks to beat the drum for Nuremberg on this occasion. Albrecht Dürer is having the cobwebs blown away from his image, he is being vaunted as a hippy and his Eve with fig-leaf, painted in 1507, is described by the public relations team as "quite a sexy piece".

The city famous for gingerbread, its own sausage, rallies and 1 FC Nuremberg football club is having a new dimension added to it. This is the city that Martin Luther once described as the eyes and ears of Germany. Even today Nuremberg welcomes artists and writers but is prepared to be critical.

There is still a sense of the flair of the mediaval, imperial citadel and the folklore of Hans Sachs.

The temperament of Nuremberg is that of a progressive city in the heart of Europe that is conducting a critical dialogue with Dürer.

Scenic designer Josef Svoboda constructed the multi-media show Noricama at the imperial fortress for 1,750,000 Marks. It includes nine portable cinema screens on which ten projectors will show the story of Nuremberg. The city's press office has devised the slogan: "A feast for the five senses" to boost the festivities.

It is still not known how much the bumper Dürer exhibition in the Germanisches Nationalmuseum will cost. The people of Nuremberg who now have only two Dürer works in their possession (a portrait of Kaiser Maximilian I and a portrait of the teacher Michael Volgemut) are hoping that despite all the refusals they have received for appeals for paintings to be loaned they will be able to show 32 of the extant oil paintings by Dürer.

One of those that they will not show is the Vier Apostel (Four Apostles) which hangs in Munich's Alte Pinakothek. This masterpiece was loaded on to a straw-covered ox cart in 1627 and sent as a loan to Munich. It never came back.

The joint planners in the Kunsthalle are spending 370,000 Marks on an exhibition entitled *Theorie und Werk*. This will include works by Dürer, Leonardo, Max Ernst, Roy Lichtenstein and Andy Warhol.

Faber-Castel, the pencil manufacturers, sent a handful of painters on an advertising tour following Dürer's tracks. The expedition cost 50,000 Marks. As a result it will be possible to see a genuine Dürer picture at the central station with stall holders dressed the part and imitation Dürer products will surround it, not to mention sausages, ice cream and other Nuremberg trinkets.

Even the avant garde are being mobilised for solemn homages to Dürer. John Read has made a lengthy television film on Dürer for the British Broadcasting Corporation and Bayerischer Rundfunk.

The Dürer House has been renovated at a cost of 232,000 Marks and the old Hangman's Bridge will also be there to present a complete Dürer picture to the guests. At the Opernhaus director August Everding and scenic designer Josef Svoboda are producing Richard Wagner's *Meistersinger von Nürnberg* at a cost of 250,000 Marks.

On the concert programme ten works will be included, with pieces by Ligeti, Zimmermann, Aribert Reimann and the Korean Isang Yun.

Granted these have nothing much to do with Dürer but it must be added that the men of the theatre were not too bothered in producing works relevant to the occasion when they asked for 173,000 Marks. So they will be presenting Kotzebue's *Deutsche Kleinstädte*, Brecht's *Leben des Galilei* Goethe's original *Götz von Berlichingen* and Fassbinder's *Blut am Hals der Katze*.

There will be no reminders of the Nuremberg laws or the Nuremberg trials. Visitors are already saying ironically that by 1976 Nuremberg will be put out of joint again when the city celebrates the 500th anniversary of the death of shoemaker and poet Hans Sachs. The 100th anniversary of the death of the revolutionary philosopher Ludwig Feuerbach in 1972 will be forgotten.

Hans Bertram Bock

(Hannoversche Presse, 5 December 1970)

■ EDUCATION

Proposals to set up a Federal University Conference to replace Rectors Conference

The Federal Republic Rectors Conference (WRK) recently held consultations with all academic institutions and university associations in this country.

The rectors fear, justifiably, that they may lose their position as university representatives and become spokesmen for university teaching staff – a position they have already reached in fact, though it is against their wishes.

They see their salvation in changing the WRK into a Federal University Conference representing the whole of further education and giving equal priority to the interests of the various disciplines and the political aims of their members.

This new University Conference should act as a representative of all spheres of further education to the central government and the Federal states and, in a plan drawn up by Professor Maihofer, carry out the following functions:

1. Planning further education, including university building;
2. Setting up and approving new universities and colleges of further education;
3. Controlling the process to end admission restrictions now imposed in some subjects (this however also includes organising numerus clausus while it still exists);
4. Maintaining international relations between universities in this country and abroad;
5. Coordinating educational and administrative work.

It has been reported that Hans Leussink, the Minister of Education and Science, reacted to these plans with an amused smile. Proposals for a supra-regional administration has already been rejected in Baden-Württemberg.

There is also opposition in the universities themselves. The Medical Faculty Congress can hardly be expected to sever its connentions with the pharmaceutical industry, the Federal Medical Chamber and the Marburg League and join the Federal University Conference as a specialist committee.

On the other hand the faculty congresses of the arts, technical and scientific subjects have already given their approval.

The decisive factor is whether the colleges of further education and vocational colleges that were previously neither organised in the WRK nor integrated in a comprehensive university – the Schools of engineering, schools of economics, the (Protestant) church universities and the (Catholic) philosophical and theological faculties – would be prepared to give up their own associations.

Only then could a Federal University Conference speak for the whole sector of further education and undermine the divide and rule principle practised successfully up to now by the educational authorities.

The first agreement in this field was made in the first week of December. At a closed session the representatives of all types of institutions giving further education expressed their basic readiness to take a joint initiative in this matter.

Their unanimous rejection of some sections of the general University Law made it possible to pass a unanimous resolution. Practical questions such as the functions, organisation and legal form of the Federal University Conference were left open.

The Federal Conference of Assistant Lecturers and the VDS students' union have approved this resolution. But they have pointed out that representatives of all universities and colleges of further education can oppose the intentions of the founders.

The existence of such an organisation in no way guarantees self-determination for the universities or a simplification of the processes of planning or decision-making.

If it does not express its political interests in a democratic reform and establish a system of educational priorities when it is founded, the Federal University Conference will not be a body independent of state administration but an instrument to integrate the universities and colleges of further education into the State apparatus.

It will only prove significant if the establishment of norms for the scientific structure and organisation is not made merely a function for the future.

The statute founding the Conference must contain a number of firm political principles for a democratic system of further education.

Of course this project can only succeed if the Federal University Conference is able to finance its planning and administration.

The WRK gets half its finances from the universities' membership fees that are in part directly transferred by the Federal states and can therefore always be stopped.

The other half of its budget comes from donations by the Stifterverband and the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, among others. Money problems are discussed at nearly every plenary session of the body.

At present the Volkswagen Foundation is the only body powerful enough to supply the initial finance. But in the long term, a Federal University Conference could never carry out its functions without a promise of funds from the budgets of the Federal states and the central government in Bonn.

This shows the dilemma of the situation. No money will be forthcoming from those people who wish to thwart an organisation covering all universities and colleges of further education, and who obviously do not want their planning data and organisational proposals to be competently analysed and answered.

Volker Gerhardt

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 December 1970)

Money for graduates

The Ministry of Education and Science in Bonn has submitted a draft Bill for consideration that should give university graduates better grants than are now offered.

The government plans financial support for 5,000 graduates who will be working for their doctorate in 1971. The Bill suggests that single students should get 900 Marks a month for two years while married students should receive 1,100 Marks.

In the first year the central government will supply ninety per cent of the money and later 75 per cent. The remaining 25 per cent will be provided by the Federal states.

The new aid programme will not only enable graduates to become a doctor more quickly but will also help guarantee that universities will be supplied with young teachers.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 9 December 1970)

Schools must cater for foreign children in this country

Children of foreign workers emplo, in the Federal Republic must h the same educational opportunitie; local children, Herr Bargmann, the ch man of the educational committee of t North Rhine-Westphalia Provincial A sembly, recently announced.

To achieve this end, he added, the l governing compulsory schooling must b changed and then strictly adhered to, th children should be helped with th homework, thousands of foreign teach must be employed and bilingual teachi must be provided.

Bargmann stated, "Recent findi show that bilingual teaching is absolut necessary as more and more forei workers do not want to return home b prefer to settle in this country.

"We must therefore adjust the edu tional system to the fact that our work will first of all become guest citizens a then fellow-citizens."

Figures supplied by the Ministry Education in North Rhine-Westph show that 2.2 per cent of element school children are foreign. The figu for intermediate schools are 1.4 per ce for *Realschulen* 0.5 and for high scho 0.6 per cent. The 1.85 million forei workers in this country have now be followed by about 1.2 million depe dents. 300,000 of these are children w attend a school. Bargmann estimates t about 150,000 children of foreign wo ers do not get any schooling.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 December 19

Pay as you learn

The Ministry of Labour is current putting the finishing touches to t long-discussed Bill providing for t gradual introduction of special leave f people wishing to attend courses f further training. The Bill will soon b submitted to groups and institutio concerned.

Estimates of the financial effects a however disputed. An effort is now bei made to calculate costs more accurat Indirect costs play a part here. N enough attention was paid to this fac the first drafts of the Bill.

Because of these difficulties it is doub ful whether the Bill will be submitted t the groups involved before the spring 1971.

But the Bill has already been draft allowing for training leave to be grant for courses of further training – especi ly professional and political and also f new courses linking professional traini and political education to a greater ext than happens now.

Courses will be given financial aid i successful participation is ensured by a length, the organisation of the timeta its teaching methods and the trainin educational and specialist experience the director and teaching staff. The courses will mainly be organised b recognised colleges of further educati

If a course satisfies all the requi ments, employees will be allowed t weeks paid leave from their place of wor year. But for the time being only a certain number of employees will be abl to obtain leave for further training.

Account must also be taken of th limited number of courses of furth training now available.

But when the law providing for speci leave for further training is on the statut book many colleges and organisatio specialising in further education ma increase the number of courses th arrange.

(Handelsblatt, 9 December 197

■ ASTRONOMY

Jupiter is hotter than supposed

Research into the planet Jupiter has now lost its puzzle-game character. Theoretical considerations, measurements with radio telecopes and spectroscopes and experiments with artificial atmospheres have enabled scientists to gain some idea of the structure of this giant planet. Details are still not all that clear however,

Two questions dominating discussions in recent years have now been settled. The temperatures at the upper and the inner layers of the planet's atmosphere are far higher than once thought.

The chemical composition of the atmosphere has also been determined. There is also further information now on the composition of the nucleus of the planet.

Physicists from the universities of Bochum and Brunswick are mainly responsible for the new picture gained of Jupiter.

Scientists believe that Jupiter was formed from a gaseous cloud which had, at the beginning of its development, the same chemical components as the sun.

Hydrogen, helium, carbon, nitrogen and oxygen must have been found quite frequently all over the planet. This led to the formation of methane and ammonia.

Bochum physicist Oswald Röhring of the Ruhr University's department of extra-terrestrial physics states that a number of spectroscopic analyses have given scientists an astonishingly clear picture of the composition of the planet's atmosphere.

The atmosphere is made up of hydrogen, helium, methane and ammonia in the rough proportion of 5.0 parts hydrogen: 1.0 parts helium: 0.005 parts methane: 0.001 parts ammonia. Hydrogen can be seen to be the dominant element in the atmosphere of the planet, its proportion being five times higher than that of helium.

Oswald Röhrig and Dr Fritz Manfred Neubauer of Brunswick's Technical University have contributed to work to discover the structure of the atmosphere.

They have found that there is a layer of steam immediately above the surface of the planet. Above this layer can be found drops of water and crystals of ice. There now comes a level of ammonia gas that also freezes into crystals a little higher up.

The reason for this structure is that steam condenses at a higher temperature than ammonia and the temperature of the atmosphere of Jupiter – like that of the Earth – decreases with altitude.

Dr Neubauer of the geophysics department at Brunswick University even considers it possible that the temperature on the surface of Jupiter could be as high as on the surface of Venus – about 400 degrees centigrade.

For a long time astronomers believed that the temperature in the extreme levels of the atmosphere (about minus 120 degrees centigrade) meant that the whole planet was just one big block of ice.

But there are considerable temperature differences in the upper atmosphere. Measurements of between minus seventy and minus 150 degrees centigrade were recorded.

But finally astrophysicists calculated that Jupiter gave off twice as much energy as it received from the sun 484 million miles away.

The planet is heated by an energy process, though nothing is yet known about how this works. Oswald Röhrig suspects that there is some sort of nuclear process on the planet.

Dr Neubauer sees a close connection between the turbulence of Jupiter's atmosphere and the flow of energy from the interior of the planet.

Röhrig estimates that the surface temperature of Jupiter is about thirty degrees centigrade in summer. American astrophysicists go even heigher – they believe that surface temperatures on the planet must be around 130 degrees centigrade.

The biggest enigma for astrophysicists is still the structure of the planet's surface. While Bernd Hente of Brunswick supports the view that the surface is liquid his colleagues Röhrig and Neubauer do not wish to commit themselves.

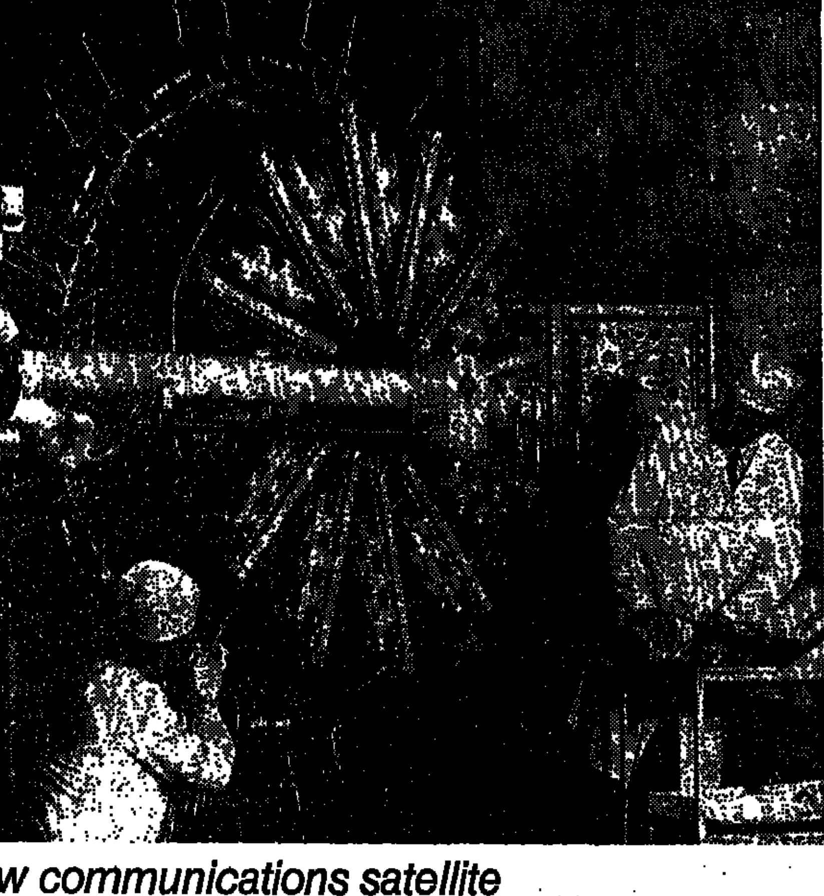
But it does seem certain to all of them that the surface consists mainly of hydrogen. Röhrig suggests that parts of the surface may be liquid while other parts are solid. Islands could exist in an ocean of hydrogen.

At the centre of the planet there is probably a pressure amounting to more than a million atmospheres. Under these conditions hydrogen would have a metallic character.

Eighty per cent of the centre of the planet should consist of hydrogen. Helium totals eighteen per cent while heavy elements make up the remaining two per cent.

Progress has also been made in research into the red patch 25,000 miles long and 6,250 miles wide. Experiments with a simulated Jupiter atmosphere of hydrogen, methane and ammonia in a pressure chamber at NASA's Ames Research Center in California have shown that it could be organic pigment.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 December 1970)



New communications satellite

This new communications satellite, named 'Transponder', is the third in a series of satellites this country has developed. It is capable of transmitting simultaneously either 6,000 telephone calls or twelve TV channels. It was recently shipped to America for launching. (Photo: AEG-Telefunken)

Observatory to set up in disused p

The first joint geoscientific observatory in the Federal Republic will be set up in disused workings at the Anton pit near Schiltach in the Black Forest.

The function of the observatory will be to record with precision instruments movements of the Earth's crust caused by earthquakes, heavy seas and the attraction of the sun and moon.

The Volkswagen Foundation has donated 550,000 Marks to convert the pit and set up a laboratory and measuring station in Schiltach.

The observatory is being set up by the geophysics departments of the universities of Karlsruhe and Stuttgart and the geodetic department in Karlsruhe.

The new observatory will arrange interdisciplinary work to increase the amount of information gained by international research on the Earth's crust and upper mantle down to a depth of one thousand kilometres.

Recent international investigations showed that the Earth has a very inhomogenous structure down to a depth of at least 700 kilometres.

The differences in the structure of the upper levels of the Earth are closely linked with the processes now to be researched and may be the cause of tectonic movements such as the formation of mountain ranges or the shifting of continents. (DIE WELT, 8 December 1970)

Nuclear-powered ships symposium in Hamburg

An international symposium on nuclear-powered merchant ships is to be held in Hamburg from 10 to 15 May 1971. The Association for the Use of Nuclear Energy in Shipbuilding and Navigation announced in Hamburg that the programme would deal with the technical, legal and economic problems of ships fitted with reactors.

According to the Association, the many years of service logged by the Russian icebreaker *Lenin* the American merchant ship *Savannah* and this country's *Otto Hahn* have led to important findings and shown the technical reliability of ships of this type.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 11 December 1970)

Munich researchers construct an artificial sun

The Max Planck Society's Institute for Plasma Physics in the Munich suburb of Garching celebrated its tenth anniversary some weeks ago. The importance of this research department can be measured from the list of guests attending the birthday ceremony.

Among the guests were Professor Butenandt, the president of the Max Planck Society, Professor Spinelli, the commissioner of the European Communities, and Professor Lüst, the president of this country's Arts and Science Council.

The aim of the research at Garching for the past ten years has been to produce temperatures of over 100 million degrees centigrade. Importance is paid to keeping this temperature stable.

Artificially produced solar temperatures should one day make it possible to fuse light atomic nuclei in what is called a fusion reactor.

This would be a new source of energy which would for the first time have unlimited raw materials at its disposal – deuterium (heavy hydrogen) from sea water and natural lithium.

Unlike powers stations today there would be no pollution of the environment and unlike nuclear reactors no radioactive waste.

Moreover this source of energy is considerably safer than the quick breeder that is now being industrially developed.

But the main advantage – and this is decisive for the further development of civilisation – is that this source will be able to cater for any imaginable increase in the demand for energy like no other system, not even the fission reactor. At present the world demand for energy is doubling every year.

As the stocks of traditional fuel that car be exploited at low prices are coming to an end, the fuel breeding fusion system of an artificial sun with a growing breeding rate must be ready by 1985 and probably will be, it was announced at the Garching ceremony.

The research done at Garching is now recognised throughout the world as pioneer work in this field. The idea of providing the high temperatures necessary in a cloud of gas controlled by surrounding magnetic fields has been adopted internationally.

The highest temperature recorded up to now – sixty million degrees centigrade – was produced by "Isar I" in 1967 by magnetic compression.

Now experiments are being conducted on the combination of various processes. Researchers hope to achieve something that has not completely succeeded in the past – combining extremely high temperatures with maximum stability of the plasma, or gas cloud.

Equipment for the experiments now to come will be much larger than that previously used. "Wendelstein II" – the apparatus now used to contain the very hot gas in a stable spiral form has a diameter of one metre. "Wendelstein VII" – now on the drawing board – will be four times as large and produce a magnetic field five times as strong.

Together with comparable British and Russian equipment, it should provide basic information enabling scientists to make the correct decisions in further development towards the fusion reactor.

"Pulsator I" is at present under construction. With the help of this apparatus a Tokomak experiment will be conducted.

Tokomak is a Russian work and means electricity near the maximum. Atomic physicists in Moscow recently succeeded in reaching a higher temperature, density and plasma life with this induction process than was possible in the ring-shaped magnetic fields previously investigated.

Karl Stankiewitz,

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 12 December 1970)

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Unions and employers both agree – now is the time to boost the economy

With a unity that is rare, both the trade unions and employers are making a demand with regard to economic policies. They are urging the government and the Bundesbank to call a halt to the restrictive measures or relax them slightly so that the industrial sectors can get going again.

As far as those industrial firms with large debts are concerned this is understandable. They want to achieve the aim of their speculation, that is to say to get themselves out of debt in the face of rising prices.

An entirely different course might be expected from a mail order firm, however, since it is bound to stick to the prices published in its catalogue, and the increased prices asked by those firms from which it buys have to be absorbed in its profit margin.

For this reason it is food for thought that Josef Neckermann, of the giant Neckermann mail order house, recently expressed his sympathy for Professor Claus Köhler of Hanover who, as a member of the committee of experts on economic affairs, had to beg to differ with his colleagues and came out in favour of something which, to avoid the expression aggravation of inflation, he called "an expansionist finance policy."

Industrialists and unions have united forces on this score, but it is at the cost of the consumer that they have done so. Savers would also suffer if they had their way. It seems that fears of a recession are stronger than fears of further drastic increases in costs and prices.

The boom was a wonderful thing, but even more weird and wonderful was the assumption that the medicine-man Professor Karl Schiller could breathe the breath of eternal life on the boom.

Since last summer those who are active on the economic scene have been sensing what the theoreticians, the committee of economic experts, has recently confirmed. The economy has passed the peak and the descent into the valley has begun.

Halfway down the mountain there is a little station called "normalisation". Everyone wants to get off there and stop the train there for good, but unfortunately it looks as if the economic train is going to go careering past the station.

It is for this reason that the economy has got to start on the upward climb and price increases just have to be left to their own devices. Anyway, how is the burden of debt to be borne if increased costs and prices are checked?

With these factors in mind people were prepared to applaud the Bundesbank more warmly for its second lowering of Bank Rate in recent weeks than they were for the first.

A factor that has been virtually overlooked is that, although we wish we were mistaken, we feel sure that the Americans started their economic train running back up the mountain some time ago.

The apparatus of our credit system has become more fluid because those who need credit have not been making so much use of the system. They have been able to do without supplies of credit from sources in this country since they now have a supply source abroad thanks to the turnabout in America's credit policies.

The relieving of the burden from banks in the Federal Republic has gone so far that in October 1970 for the first time in a long while one thousand million odd Marks were *exported*. This exporting largely took the form of non-renewal of European credits.

In the light of this the lowering of Bank Rate was nothing more than an act of confirmation.

Foreign debts incurred this year by organisations other than banks add up to around nine thousand million Marks, which is for the moment a tendency towards increase.

The effect of this movement of capital is the same as if the Bundesbank had released nine thousand million Marks in minimum required reserves. This sum is more than one third of overall minimum required bank reserves (24 thousand million Marks).

The point of a "reserve" by definition is to be there when it is required. These compulsory minimum reserves would be needed if the nine thousand million Marks of foreign debts were to be paid back by the firms in question, whether it be because the creditors decided not to prolong their loan or whether it be because the borrowers decided it would be more favourable to borrow money in their own country.

In both cases the Bundesbank would have to release some of its reserves. But the effect on the industrial economy would be neutral. It would simply be a case of robbing Peter to pay Paul.

Providing excessive money for this purpose in none too simple a matter, since the markets in Europe are so unpredictable and the Bundesbank has to be on its guard all the time against hot money flooding in from abroad in one of its many guises.

The kind of surprise that can occur in this respect was shown recently. The Federal Reserve Board, in an attempt to relieve the currency exchange market at least temporarily of an excess of dollars, introduced a refined reform to minimum reserve regulations.

This was designed to stop American banks paying back European currencies too quickly. At the end of the year repayments tend to fall due and we see the "window-dressing" of bank balances. As a result of this the banks of issue found themselves put under some considerable pressure, having to accept the dollars that came from the repayment of credits.

The announcement of the new measure alone was sufficient to produce a sudden effect on the market. Suddenly it looked as if there was going to be a loss sustained on the incoming dollars.

The sudden demand for dollars to pay back short-term European credits does not imply that the credit market in this country has lost some of its resources in liquid cash. Furthermore it highlights the great amount of cash reserves that are required at short notice as soon as the cat is put among the pigeons by a move on the part of the Americans.

The hidden liquidity of the Federal Republic credit market is so susceptible to unforeseen circumstances that compulsory minimum reserves are required to maintain solvency intact.

A policy of making the domestic credit market tempting for the borrower at the end of each financial year is possible; it would mean more liberal regulations on minimum required reserves and a further lowering of Bank Rate to give it the initial impulse.

There is a risk that the finances thus released would not flow abroad and would be an inflationary canker here if the level of reserves was lowered.

It is understandable that the Bundesbank is still keen to avoid this risk since it is not known what effect transactions in January will have, but by the end of the month the risk should be calculable.

The expression "durchstarten" (which means giving the industrial economy a boost in the middle of a deflationary phase) is in itself illusory. The Americans have some experiences of this and they are for the most part disappointing.

After eight months the sum total seems to be stagflation, the ultimate one. The depreciation rate of the dollar remained above the five-per-cent level. The number of unemployed has exceeded the highest level since the figure for 19..

The value of the dollar abroad is only being maintained by the influence and power of Washington.

Nevertheless the stock market is still showing an encouraging upward trend and further major bankruptcies have been avoided. This, it would seem, is of great importance to vested interest groups in the Federal Republic.

Walter Wannenmacher

(CHRIST UND WELT, 11 December 1970)

Good timing required to ward off a recession

Short-time working, increased unemployment, fewer vacancies and increasing prices — what a dismal picture they present on the industrial scene at the moment!

It seems that the march into dreaded stagflation — this is the new slogan of the dismal jimmies in the economic sphere — is unavoidable.

Stagflation means that production and turnover have stagnated at a particularly displeasing level, whereas prices gaily go on rising. This really would be a sorry state for the country to get itself into.

Judging by past experience creeping inflation can be made tolerable by considerable increases to wages and salaries. Unemployment is balanced to a certain extent by the consolation that is given by fairly stable prices. Will this past experience turn sour on us this time?

Before we make ourselves miserable with gloomy predictions of the shape of things to come let us at least take a little time and trouble to look at the situation more closely.

An unemployment quota of 0.6 per cent is hardly disastrous. Many countries would be pleased if their unemployed figure were this low and some would even consider 0.6 per cent overemployment!

The 19,000 workers at present on short time are rather a sign that some companies overestimated their turnover potential than an indication that we are likely to be suffering from mass unemployment before long. But this is how it usually begins.

Comparisons with the situation when the economic cycle had reached this stage in past years are unsatisfactory since data and conditions are never completely the same and even if they were it would be impossible to read the economic future from them with 100% accuracy since the way the faceless millions who make the economy tick are going to act can never be forecast with certainty.

Nevertheless, let us look back to the previous economic low point which was reached in the year 1967. This slump had given plenty of prior warnings. By the end of 1965 it gave the first indications of being on the way and in early 1966 the first real difficulties were experienced.

During 1966, however, prices continued to head for the skies. The prophets of doom could have warned us of imminent stagflation in those days except for the fact that the word had not entered the language!

It should be noted that the absolute low of 1967 brought with it a much more stable situation with regard to prices.

If this is compared with the present day it must be stated that anyone who expected prices to start showing signs of coming back to earth now would be asking for a miracle. The rate of price increases will only slow down when the man in the street thinks twice, or preferably thrice, before spending his cash.

Apart from a disappointing increase for traders in Christmas business this year retailers are quite pleased with their 1970 sales. Presumably the urge to spend will not be checked next year either, especially if wages and salaries continue to increase.

What should the economic policy-makers do in this situation? Nothing much can be done about prices. They are in any case not an early warning system that shows when a different line is to be pursued. The level of employment is still good. But the number of orders coming in to Federal Republic industrial concerns has been cut back.

Companies are showing less willingness to extend their production capacity. Investments are certainly not likely to be so high in 1971 as they have been in 1970.

Any amount of normalisation of the situation is to be welcomed. There is, however, a danger that the level of investment will be cut back too far. Companies must be freed from sufficient financial burdens to encourage them not to choke their rate of expansion too severely.

Relief is in sight. By the end of January degressive depreciation, the method of claimed tax relief on capital investment which was suspended temporarily, will be reintroduced. In addition to this interest rates are gradually being lowered. Since mid-1970 Bank Rate has been lowered in three easy stages from 7.5 per cent to 6 per cent.

But the Bundesbank has shown little enthusiasm for the idea of relaxing its credit restrictions.

One of the main reasons for refusing to allow industry more capital is the fact that wage increases have not been checked sufficiently for price stability to be restored in the face of high consumer demand. It would, however, be dangerous to wait until this comes about.

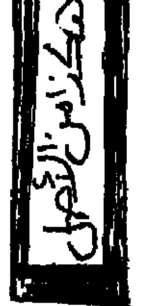
Stubbornness on the part of a Bundesbank that intends to bring the trade unions into line and unions that want to prove their autonomy by making claims that are hard to meet are making life difficult for industrialists.

Both factors are working in the same direction and having the same effect. They are cutting the profit margins that are necessary for industrialists to make the investments required to expand their business, the one by making wages too expensive, the other by making credit expensive.

Workers must keep their claims more modest in 1971. And the Bundesbank would be well advised not to repeat mistakes it made last time there was a drastic change in the economic situation. When Dr Karl Blessing was their President they kept the economic brakes clamped firmly on until 1967 when the country was in a slump.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 10 December 1970)





REVIEW

Postwar neo-liberal economic ideology has outlived its usefulness

Rowohlt will be publishing next February a paperback entitled 'Formen bürgerlicher Herrschaft — Liberalismus und Faschismus' (Types of bourgeois domination — liberal and fascist) by Reinhard Kühnl, a lecturer at the Institute for Political Science of Marburg University. The following is an extract from his book.

Changes in the social pattern since the end of the nineteenth century have taken from the liberal movement its *raison d'être* and yet even today there are parties existing that still call themselves liberal.

They advance theories that are based on a free market economy, and constitutional principles that stem from the tradition of liberal parliamentarianism.

The questions of their place in history and their political function is therefore unavoidable. They are to be answered in an exemplary fashion taking the Federal Republic as their example.

The great economic crisis that followed the Wall Street crash in 1929 and lasted for some years hit all capitalist countries hard and brought with it proof positive that the self-regulating mechanisms of the capitalist system are no longer sufficient to keep the economy going.

As a result theories and practices came into operation that made the economy subject to State intervention in order to protect the industrial economy without directly interfering with the rights of the individual industrialist to autonomy within his own concern on the matters of production methods and profits.

Intervention from the State was intended basically to provide a guarantee and in cases of necessity to provide rationalisation for the private industrialist at the expense of the general public.

With the aid of this new government economic policy which was coupled with extensive contracts for munitions it was possible to surmount the crisis at long last.

It seems all the more astounding at first sight that this concept of economics which went under the name of Keynesianism was threatened at the end of the War in 1945 with a resurgence of liberal ideologies.

This applies particularly to the western part of Germany but also to some extent to the other countries of the western capitalist world.

Economics theoreticians such as Eucken, Röpke and Müller-Armack propagated a form of economic liberalism that had only been slightly changed and Economic Affairs Minister of the day Ludwig Erhard voiced a claim that the "free market economy" should be turned into a political reality.

If these ideas, ideologies and theories are tested against the background of the real political situation the renaissance of economic liberalism becomes easy to understand.

This new form of liberalism, like the old, taught that free competition and private enterprise were the soundest guarantees for the prosperity of all.

The difference between this modern liberalism and the old style liberalism was that it granted that certain cases for intervention by the State were unavoidable. It was the duty of the State above all to assure that the right preconditions for free competition were guaranteed and the power of monopolies was limited so that the giant companies could never get into a position where they alone controlled the market.

Apart from this, however, the mechanism of the economy was to be switched to free competition. Measures such a minimum wages, maximum prices and the like were damaging and superfluous.

On the surface the new liberalism seemed to be operating on two fronts. First of all it was rejecting all kinds of socialism outright. There was to be no communal property and no State planning. On the other hand it was attacking the tendency towards monopolies and all the dangers they involve.

To its own comprehension it was offering a third way, a happy medium between socialism and capitalism, the "social free market economy".

This was supposed to avoid the disadvantages of both the other extremes. Wilhelm Röpke ascribed to it "not a conservative character, but a thoroughly revolutionary nature."

Later developments in the Federal Republic have shown drastically that despite the scientific and political astuteness that is shown in these ideas several factors make them superfluous.

Firstly there is no question of a conquest of capitalism, nor of a build-up of capital in the hands of the working classes.

Secondly the capital in companies holding a monopoly or at least a strong position on the market has managed to achieve the power it held of old.

Thirdly economic concentration has reached a pitch that has never been experienced before in the history of Germany.

Fourthly the division of wealth and the differences in incomes have become more unfair than ever, and fifthly timid advances towards control of economic power have remained totally insignificant politically speaking as the saga of monopolies legislation has shown so clearly.

From this aspect it is clear to see that the significance of this neo-liberalism lies in the sphere of methods of justification and veiling. However, it is difficult to say just what is being justified and what is being veiled.

After the collapse of the Third Reich there were at first strong tendencies towards the formation of a socialist democracy.

Capitalism had been largely discredited by its failure to master the situation duration the period of economic crisis and its allegiance to fascism and the imperialism of the extreme right.

This trend can be read in political party programmes of the time as well as in the Federal state constitutions and in Hesse and Saxony's plebiscites on the question of socialisation. There was a majority in favour of more than seventy per cent.

In this situation it was only possible to rescue the capitalist system at least in the western zones if the masses could be offered an ideology that appeared to be anti-capitalist without actually endangering capitalism to any great degree.

This system would also have to appeal to the strong feeling of anti-Communism that had been nurtured for so many years. But it would have to distance itself completely from fascism, which had been totally discredited, and the militarism that went hand in glove with it. This militarism was also supported by economic directives.

Neo-liberalism met both these needs. The first was met by its doctrine stating that capitalism could be overcome and social justice could be achieved without touching private ownership and freedom of decisions on production methods.

The second need was met by the denunciation of all forms of State control of economic planning as methods of coercion that violated liberty. Under the heading of *Zentralverwaltungswirtschaft* (centralised administration of the economy) was contained the socialist ideal of a planned economy and the fascistic military economy.

Since this and a *freie Verkehrswirtschaft* (free economy) were considered to be identical in form, the free market economy could be looked upon as a liberal alternative to both and at the same time could be regarded as anti-socialist, anti-fascist and anti-capitalist.

This appearance, which went solely on matters of form and concentrated entirely on means of organisation took no account of the crux of the matter, the division of property and wealth. This was at the basis of the theory of totalitarianism, which, during the Cold War, was used as a particularly powerful weapon in the ideological b.. East.

Thus behind the veil of mist t.. neo-liberal ideology created and w.. .. was backed up to the hilt by the employers' associations it was possible to complete the re-establishment of the capitalist position of power untrammelled.

Those who depended on their wage-packet for their survival were persuaded that the "social free market economy" would guarantee prosperity for all, the heads of small and medium-sized concerns were won over by the argument that monopolies would be broken and the larger concerns used the neo-liberal patter to help them break free from the chains of the allied occupying powers immediately after the War. Later the neo-liberal argument was also useful for them, since it helped them check the might of the unions which were denounced as being too powerful, too centralised and therefore a danger for liberty.

The fact that these policies were successful depended largely on the keenness of the United States to shut out the influence of the Soviet Union as far as possible. America gave its wholehearted backing to the restoration of capitalism.

Neo-liberalism was thrown out of the window as soon as monopolies had been restored and capitalism was back in force. Finally the period of reconstruction came to an end and the recession of 1966–1967 made it clear that the economy could not survive in the Federal Republic, too, unless there was some State control. The economic policies of the neo-liberal Ludwig Erhard had had their day.

There were replaced by the Keynesian course embodied by Professor Karl Schiller. There was thus no longer any danger that the limited planning that this new direction involved could turn out in favour of those who live from the weekly pay-packet, or the monthly salary.

Defamation of the ideas of planning and economic directives from the government as a danger to freedom and prosperity and at base Bolshevistic tactics, which had been the attitude of the politically-minded public until the beginning of the sixties, could now be given up. Not only were State-dictated fiscal measures, but also expansion of larger economic units at the expense of smaller ones, now said to be sensible and necessary.

Of the neo-liberal ideas there were just one or two relics hidden away in various university departments and in party propaganda.

The political relevance of neo-liberal ideas has ceased to exist.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 11 December 1970)

Despite waning boom wage claims have been met

There was a dearth of industrial action in the Federal Republic in 1970! Trade unions took advantage of the death throes of the boom to squeeze the sponge a little harder and the industrialists took this meekly and with very little resistance.

They did, however, moan about the increasing production costs per item. Their profits were whittled down and they showed less keenness to make further capital investments.

Nevertheless employers put up with high wage demands right into the autumn without initiating any attempt to reverse the situation by means of taking a tough line.

Is it that the employers' associations do not from the organisational and financial point of view have enough in hand to be able to afford a strike? Is it that they lack the teeth to fight an industrial war, or are there other reasons for their surprising reaction to the wage grabs?

The example of the metalworker's employers' associations in the north of Baden and the north of Württemberg shows that on the employers' side as well there are organisations that have the finances and the unity to take strikes in their stride and battle out an industrial campaign tooth and nail.

Employers' associations in the metal-working industries already have experience of strikes. In 1963 they brought their big guns into action and applied a *lock-out*.

When the demands came for higher wages in the metal industry last year the employers at first took a hard line again in north Baden and north Württemberg.

Only at the last minute did they accede to the suggestion of the Federal state government that it was essential to find a peaceful solution to this industrial dispute. This was achieved by increasing wages in the industry by 12.2 per cent and other measures in favour of their workers.

This meant that the upper limit aimed at by the general association of employers in the metal industries, ten per cent, was exceeded by 2.2 per cent.

When employers in the metalworking industries are asked at their Stuttgart headquarters why they finally accepted wage increases which were considered "intolerable" right from the very start the answer is: We wanted to avoid a labour dispute in this late phase and if we had stuck out even at the expense of a short strike we would probably have been worse off, and not in a better position.

As far as employers are concerned industrial campaigns seem for the most part to have lost their value as a corrective measure.

What is the reaction of the trade unions to this new attitude? For them a strike is, as always, a valuable instrument for applying their will and seeing that their intentions are heeded. But on the workers' part as well there are always some points to be considered coolly at the eleventh hour.

The chairman of the metalworkers trade union, Otto Brenner, said in an interview published in *Welt der Arbeit*

Continued on page 13

■ AUTOMOBILES

Electronic braking device developed by Daimler-Benz

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Tricky situations that develop when a driver brakes incorrectly or at the wrong moment will soon be a thing of the past. Daimler-Benz and Teldix have unveiled the first fully developed electronic anti-locking system for all four wheels. It will be available in standard models from next autumn.

Dr Hans Scherenberg, technical director of Daimler-Benz, who have been responsible for roughly half the research and development work on the new system, noted that his firm is prepared, in the interest of road safety, to put the system at the disposal of all motor manufacturers.

Two test vehicles drive at high speed into a bend. Both drivers slam the anchors on but only one car reacts as it might reasonably be expected to and skids straight on and through what would normally be a crash barrier, ditch or wall on the other side of the road.

Had this happened on a normal road a serious accident could hardly have failed to occur. The second car stays on course and grinds to a halt without either skidding or the driver having to steer like a madman.

After this impressive demonstration of the anti-lock system in action, not to mention a series of measured laps that proved that not even the most experienced test driver can outwit the electronics in braking, the writer was himself allowed to try out this amazing device in all manner of conditions.

No matter what braking error is made the car is not taken out of its stride. Braking during cornering is as unproblematic as slamming the anchors on a slippery or variable surface – all occasions that as a rule lead to accidents.

In the process the test vehicle comes to a halt in the shortest distance possible in the circumstances. At the wheel of a car fitted with the anti-lock device even a beginner is more than a match for the most experienced rally driver when it comes to braking in a tricky situation.

A number of measurements taken on the Mercedes proving ground bear this out. On a wet cement road surface a car travelling at 130 kilometres an hour (a little over eighty mph) was emergency-braked. The wheels locked and the car skidded to an uncontrollable halt in 139 metres (152 yards).

An experienced driver proved unable to shorten the braking-distance but managed to retain a degree of control over the vehicle by relaxing foot pressure on the brake at very short intervals.

Using the electronic device the braking-distance was exactly 96.1 metres (105 yards) and the driver had full control over the steering all the time.

A normal car would have crashed into an obstacle the anti-lock test vehicle would have just pulled up in time to avoid at a speed of seventy kilometres an hour (forty mph) and the driver and passengers would have gone to a certain death.

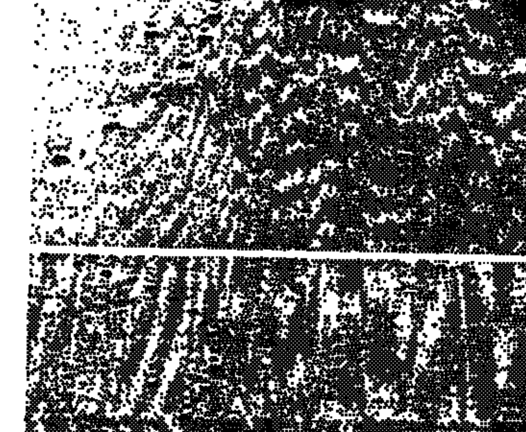
The idea of automatic brake regulation is nothing new, which is hardly surprising in view of the risks braking can involve. Daimler-Benz started work on the idea ten years ago. Cooperation with Teldix (Telefunken and Bendix) began in 1966.

Other electronics firms in Europe and the United States are also engaged in work of a similar kind, but more straightforward solutions involving, say, regulation of the rear axle seem not to work in practice.

The anti-lock system, unveiled at Daimler-Benz's Untertürkheim, Stuttgart, headquarters, uses sensors on all four wheels.

If a wheel starts to lock the sensor registers the fall in speed of wheel rotation and conveys the information to an electronic mechanism that, after taking further data into account, works the brake fluid pressure valve in such a way that pressure is reduced accordingly.

The wheel turns faster, the sensor indicates that more brake pressure could be applied and the whole procedure goes on separately for all four wheels each wheel is subjected to the exact amount of brake pressure to combine maximum braking and maximum road-holding.



Stills from a film taken of two Mercedes, one fitted with the new electronic braking device, coming to a sudden halt on a bend. The test vehicle, with a white patch on the side door, held its position on the road.

(Photos: Daimler-Benz)

When the anti-lock device starts to operate the car and brake pedal start to shudder slightly. Since the device only springs into action when there is a real danger of the wheels locking (on a dry road only when the anchors are slammed full on) this can hardly be rated a disadvantage.

During normal, gentle braking manoeuvres of the kind motorists will generally prefer unless it is really a matter of life or death the electronic device does not function and the car comes to as smooth a halt as the driver can normally manage.

When the need arises, though, the brake can be regulated up to fifteen times a second and respond within thousandths of a second. Should the mechanism be defective in any way the brakes still work as they normally would.

The price is still horrific, however. For the time being, until, that is, long runs are manufactured and other manufacturers adopt the system, anti-lock will cost 1,500 Marks in a new car specially equipped for it and a good deal more to incorporate in an old vehicle.

What is more, anti-lock will not be fully effective as a safety factor until all or almost all vehicles on the road are fitted with it.

Anti-bloc can also be fitted to lorries and buses, but has yet to be perfected. In test runs by two buses at the proving ground the anti-lock device worked well in combination with hydraulic brakes but the bus with air brakes shook badly when it started to function.

Buses and lorries present a particular problem because there is such a difference between their laden and unladen weights. But work is being carried on at high speed since the gain in safety is specially important when a bus is full of passengers.

A measured trial gives some indication of the progress that has already been made. A bus that carried out an emergency braking manoeuvre at a speed of eighty kilometres an hour came to a halt in 76 metres. Fitted with anti-bloc it pulled up in 43 metres.

Had the first bus crashed into an obstacle the second had just managed to avoid it would have done so at a speed of 52.8 kilometres an hour, or a little over thirty miles per hour.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 12 December 1970)

Motorists over 45 should be obliged to wear bifocals

Traffic is growing increasingly dense, cars more and more powerful. Almost all last autumn's newcomers were a few horse power up on their predecessors. TS, TI, and GTs are extremely popular.

It is hardly surprising either. The more powerful a car is the faster and safer it can overtake a lorry on an autobahn gradient. There can be no doubt that this is a gain.

But it is so with one proviso to which no one can object. Greater power, speed and acceleration are only an advantage when the driver can see far ahead and clearly and reliably assess the traffic situation.

In other words, a driver must be able to see well in order to react promptly. This article, then, is a plea for motorists to show enough responsibility to wear glasses if they need them.

When taking your driving test you must prove that your sight is unimpaired. If you fail to pass the sight test you must wear spectacles.

This is all well and good but sight deteriorates with the years and even if you could see well when you took your test your eyes need not be as good now and if you tire easily and suffer from headaches on long journeys it may well be that poor eyesight is to blame.

There are all manner of motoring aids and extras on the market. Some are useful, indeed indispensable, others are not. Unfortunately the most important special item of equipment for any motorist is not contained in any catalogue. It is a new pair of spectacles with non-reflecting lenses.

People used not to wear glasses for reasons of vanity but nowadays they are a fashion accessory and not in the least negative. They are an article of make-up and part of a man's image.

A motorist's eyes must range near and far, clearly taking in both the readings on



the dashboard and the traffic situation well ahead.

As we grow older, and certainly after the age of about 45, vision deteriorates and the eye finds it increasingly difficult to focus at close range.

This applies equally to people whose vision has so far been good and to those who have suffered from short or long sight. Everyone should then consider investing in bifocals, and not just for driving.

The optical glass now used for bifocals is welded together by a complicated smelting process that makes it virtually impossible to see where the one section of lens ends and the other begins.

This means that the arrangement of the upper section for distance and the lower section for close-up vision is so tuned to the requirements of the human eye that after a short period of adjustment it can range from close-up to long shot without difficulty.

Motorists should, as a matter of principle, wear non-reflection glasses, especially in twilight and the dark when reflection can be particularly treacherous and specially treated lenses also increase the contrast.

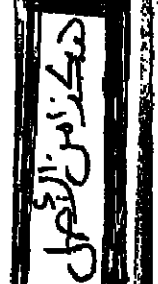
The wafer-thin coating, about a ten thousandth of a millimetre, that is steamed on to the inside and outside surfaces of the lens in a powerful vacuum is completely impervious to streaks and scratches. What is more, lenses so treated have the advantage that wearers hardly notice the glass between their eyes and what they see.

Bifocals, carefully adjusted to the individual's sight at any given time, are of course a little more expensive than normal glasses but they are definitely on the way in and every older driver should wear them.

There are no exact statistics but it is estimated that 45 per cent of the population ought to wear glasses. There can be no doubt that the responsible road-user ought to have his sight tested at least every other year.

Good vision, when all is said and done, is indispensable. *Eberhard Seifert*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 12 December 1970)



■ MOTORING

Used with caution spikes can increase safety on winter roads

Handelsblatt
Deutsche Wirtschaftszeitung
Industriekurier

Snow and slush are far from being the most treacherous conditions motorists encounter in the winter. Black ice and packed snow are the real menaces. They can occur from one moment to the next and make very high demands on a driver's reactions.

Drivers who do not concentrate on the road, pumping their feet up and down on clutch, brake and accelerator instead, will soon see the road all right, but from another angle.

It will have been relatively harmless if all he does is land in the ditch but could be a good deal more dangerous if he collides with another vehicle after having lost control of his own.

Since tyres represent the direct link between the motor vehicle and the road surface, transmitting the acceleration and centrifugal and other forces that develop as a result of propulsion, braking and negotiating bends, thought was given as long ago as the turn of the century to ways and means of boosting the grip-friction coefficient.

On a good dry road it amounts to eighty to ninety per cent of what is in theory possible. On an icy road the percentage can fall to less than ten!

Even with spikes a motorist must restrain his temperament in winter but thinking drivers and drivers who reduce speed and utilise the additional road-holding that spikes can provide are safest.

Spikes must be fitted on all four wheels though. Tests have shown that cars with spikes fitted only on the rear wheels tend to understeer while those with spikes on the front wheels only tend to oversteer.

As a matter of principle the tyre pressure should be set at 0.2 atmospheres (approximately 2 pounds per square inch) more than usual so as to prevent undue wear and increase road-holding.

As the studs invariably protrude slightly from the tread the roll resistance is slightly greater and so is the fuel consumption. They are not very noisy, though. All that can be heard from the tyres is a light, metallic singing noise.

The trouble with spikes is that greater safety in front is paid for in terms of greater danger from behind. A car without spikes may well not be able to stop in the same time and so collide with the back of one's own car.

This is why keeping your distance is even more important in winter than it is in summer. The main advantages of spikes are improved road-holding on bends, greater certainty that the wheels will not just spin when you drive off and shorter braking-distances when you are forced to stop.

Salted roads are doubtless splendid. Salt melts away ice and snow. It also encourages corrosion and shortens a car's life-span. It cannot be spread everywhere, though, and local authorities tend to restrict themselves to clearing main roads.

This is all there is to be said on the subject, even though roadmen may maintain that it is the best means of keeping roads snow- and ice-free.

Sand and grit are also good but do not do much to boost road-holding and are quickly brushed aside by traffic. Anti-corrosive additives are not only most expensive but also make the salt thaw less efficiently.

In the days when there were no winter radials with spikes the tyre industry used to recommend motorists to drive no faster than 130 (a little over eighty miles an hour) on dry roads.

Nearly all conventional spikes consist of a steel or brass mantle surrounding a hard metal core. They are designed to wear down at the same speed as the tyre rubber.

Tests have shown that at speeds of 130 kilometres an hour the spikes reach temperatures of 100 degrees centigrade. The moment the temperature exceeds 100 the surrounding rubber starts to melt and the spike works loose and parts company with the tyre.

In other words, spikes are almost invariably lost through overheating.

In order to lessen heat conductivity and improve the durability of spikes in car tyres hard metal studs in a plastic mantle appear to be on the way in with a vengeance.

They stay more firmly in the tyre, run more quietly and evidently do not damage the road surface as much as conventional spikes. But as yet they are only a trend.

There can be no denying that spikes make their mark on dry roads during acceleration and braking. In the circumstances motorists should be prepared to exercise self-discipline and drive sensibly with spikes.

If they fail to do so, however, there will be no alternative but either drastically reduce the period of time during which their use is permitted or to ban them altogether.

It is not true to say that a minority of motorists, spikes-owners, are damaging the roads at the expense of the majority. Last year seventy per cent of all winter tyres sold were spikes.

This is a sure sign of a growing desire for safety. Everyone would like to return home the way he left it: healthy and unmaimed. *E. Seifert*

(Handelsblatt, 3 December 1970)

Waning boom

Continued from page 11

that his union's wage claim did not amount to an ultimatum.

Years of experience have shown that negotiations are regarded as having reached a satisfactory conclusion if three fourths of what has been demanded is in fact granted.

Another indication was given by the IG Metall chairman when he said that it should be generally realised that ministers have a justified interest in avoiding industrial disputes in the regions for which they are responsible. From their point of view it would be irresponsible to stand by and watch an industrial dispute develop after a period of arbitration.

The two sides involved in collective bargaining can go so far before accepting the invitation of political mediators.

This is just the way it has been. In a perfected system of mediation the strike becomes an almost totally avoidable occurrence.

Back in the twenties employers on occasions bled the unions dry with the aid of lock-outs and protracted industrial campaigns. Today such an action is unthinkable.

The State has given up its position as a mere spectator. Both sides of industry are now well aware that a forest fire can be very destructive if the fire brigade just stands watching, and nobody wants that to happen.

Today's different position with regard to employers' associations and trade unions does not automatically lead to results in negotiations on wages and working conditions that are desirable and reasonable for the national economy.

Decisions taken within trade unions before they go to the conference table to discuss new wage agreements are becoming more and more important. The demands they make cannot be the result of a more or less sharp game of poker. They too must take into account the state of the national economy as much as the company's investment resources and the situation of the employers.

Solving this problem to everyone's satisfaction is no easy matter. Only unions run responsibly on modern lines can tackle the problem successfully.

Just as necessary, however, are employers who are able to gauge the state of the market and their company's potential accurately. *Werner Mühlbradt*

(DIE WELT, 11 December 1970)

THE FIVE DEADLY SINS OF D.
The causes of accidents during 1969 in percentages of those accidents in which people were injured

Cause	Per cent
Speeding	23
Ignoring right of way	14
Drunken driving	12
Ignoring traffic signs	9
Failing to keep distance from car in front	7

50km

Traffic fines do not deter traffic offenders

"The considerable increase in the number of traffic accidents caused by drunken drivers makes a rethink necessary. In 1969 roughly one fatal accident in four on the roads was due to driving under the influence."

This quotation from the recently published Federal government report on transport makes it clear how urgent the need to do something about drinking and driving is.

At a conference on the subject held by the Federal Republic Road Safety Council fourteen doctors and lawyers drew up a ten-point programme that bears witness to careful consideration of all aspects involved.

They decided in favour of introducing eighty milligrammes as the level at which a driver is considered to be driving under the influence of drink because they felt it was a level at which people were still at liberty to drink a glass or two but for the most part remain well able to handle a motor vehicle.

Motorists who drive with a higer level of alcohol in the blood ought, the panel unanimously agreed, to be subject to severe punishment.

At the same time the experts well realised that stiffer penalties are not enough. What was needed, they decided, was a new image of the motorist – a man, as Professor Karl Luff of Frankfurt put it, "who realises that the effect of alcohol – even moderate or small amounts drunk by himself – cannot be reconciled with the control of the faculties needed to drive in traffic."

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 12 December 1970)

Misleading car ads

Early in December management, admen and politicians met in Munich to discuss car advertisments. "Car ads," Bavarian Interior Minister Merk commented, "are wrong in suggesting that a few more horse power make the driver a superman."

In this country alone eight manufacturers producing a range of 130 models compete for a market that eighty imported models are also eager to slice into.

Horst Wendt, advertising director of Daimler-Benz, did not deny that competition is frequently fierce. But, he said, "the (motor) industry is under no obligation to set the country an example. It merely makes and sells the cars people want."

In the family saloon category, he noted, there just happens to be a trend towards faster, more sporting cars. It was not his fault that people in this country see "sporting" in terms of competing and winning rather than as fair play.

Yet it is a proven fact that the would-be sportsmen who bite soonest at advertising consisting of sun-tanned gritty he-men at the wheel are also the ones who cause the most accidents.

Dr Gerhard Munsch, a psychologist attached to Munich Technical Supervision Association, the independent body responsible for conducting two-year roadworthiness tests on motor vehicles, commented that one driver in three with relatively little experience (less than 40,000 miles) impulsively tended towards fast cars.

Arrant beginners could not care less about speed but after 40,000 miles only one driver in ten is still indifferent to mph. "Germans tend towards fast cars when they can least handle them," he concluded.

Dr Munsch does not consider the emphasis on speed in car advertising alarming in itself, for all that. He merely feels it is superfluous.

This is not what the politicians think, though. "This kind of advertising is an enticement to commit murder," Minister Merk proclaimed.

"It runs counter to the declared aims of road safety" and "mobilises power complexes" was the considered opinion of Ernst Müller-Hermann, Christian Democratic transport specialist and Bundestag member for Bremen.

"Advertising rally wins is misleading if the buyer then believes he is buying the car that won the rally," Bundestag deputy Fellermaier of Neu-Ulm pointed out.

"The industry manufactures what the public want," Dr Johann Heinrich von Brunn, president of the Motor Manufacturers' Association, countered. Advertising exercises no influence on the motorist whatsoever.

Why, then, are millions spent on it, he was asked. Dr von Brunn was at a loss for an answer.

Dr Munsch saw only one solution to the problem of increasing speed at the wrong stage. The poor performance of inexperienced motorists can only be improved by not granting beginners a full driving licence and making them keep on learning to graduate to the real thing.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 4 December 1970)

■ OUR WORLD

Adequately equipping police has not been done fast enough



A mosaic worked into the entrance hall at Düsseldorf's police headquarters reads, "God with us". This is very much the fervent wish of any police officer who sits in front of a television set with a polaroid camera and hopes to get pictures from the daily news casts that will help him and his colleagues in their pursuit of criminals.

Unlike the police in the American crime serial "Mannix" where the star role is played by a computer in tracking down evil-doers (second of course to the smart detective who breaks all the girls' hearts), police in this country are provided with little except their own "home-made" equipment to hunt out wrong-doers.

Heinrich Krüger, head of the police section in the public workers trade union, doubts that in the present state of police equipment and police technical apparatus police forces are capable of fulfilling the demands made of them. And a spokeman for the competing police union, "Gewerkschaft der Polizei", Friedel Gniesmer, said: "Every year the police drop further and further behind in technical matters."

It is a disgrace, he believes, that not all police officers are on the telephone at home, that when there is an emergency all police cars are in action so that police officers have to use their own cars or those of colleagues to get to the scene of a crime.

Friedel Gniesmer gets enraged at the thought that sometimes police officers have to wait an hour to use the phone because the police network is still incomplete or that in 1968 in Detmold more than 50 per cent of all journeys made by car on duty were made in cars belonging to police officers themselves.

Nevertheless despite all criticisms made by police organisations there have over the past two years been improvements made and if not made put in hand. There are almost 28,000 police on the ordinary beat and 5,000 criminal police in North Rhine-Westphalia and they have been equipped with 1,545 police cars, more than 700 ordinary vehicles and 800 special service vehicles. All of these have been equipped with radio. The North Rhine-Westphalian government provides 6,5 million Marks annually for police vehicles.

As soon as the vehicles were supplied to the police the police union began to criticise. These criticisms centre round the fact that in too many Federal states regulations state that a police vehicle must be driven for 150,000 kilometres, almost 100,000 miles, despite its condition or age and that police are still supplied with Opel-Blitz vehicles that are not fast enough and have been taken out of production. There are also arrangements for vehicles to be delivered to the police, in compliance with regulations that apply to all Federal state forces, direct from the works without first having to pass through police vehicle workshops.

During 1969 there were 97,079 road accidents in which 131,000 persons were injured and 4,285 were killed. From January to August 1970 there was an increase of ten per cent in these figures over the figures for a comparable period in the previous year.

During 1969 there were 600,962 traffic offenders (in the first half of 1970 there were 6.4 per cent more) for the 30,000 North Rhine-Westphalia police to deal with. The police were able to resolve 48.3 per cent of all cases.

Police investigation and information equipment has been improved, as for instance the radio photo service throughout the country shows. In Düsseldorf the police also have over 42,000 files on national criminals. These reference files include information about warrants issued for a person's arrest, his arrest, his criminal record as well as aliases. This information plus local information on these files is being processed in 14 data processing centres. Whereas until now only personal details were available for police work, from 1971 all this information will be on hand in a computer used exclusively for police work. This will be the first phase of proposed improvements.

The 16 centres that will provide information on persons with criminal records will be increased by 1971 to 25. The cost of "Inspector Computer" is expected to be 2.5 million Marks.

It is also proposed to improve the means by which photographs of wanted persons can be distributed to the 76 local police headquarters and the 421 police stations in North Rhine-Westphalia. It used to take two days to make a state-wide distribution. It is now proposed to build up a radio photo network, involving 15 main police offices in the state as well as the offices of the state criminal police. These will be equipped with transmitter and receiving facilities. Stations are already operating in this network at Aachen, Bielefeld, Dortmund, Düsseldorf and Cologne.

Criminal police are also not at all happy with the facilities that the state criminal police have available for technical investigations. Dr Pavel, head of the criminal police technical investigation department, claims that staff shortages are the greatest difficulty. He points out that he has only 40 persons working in his department, six of them scientists, who have to deal with more than 4,000 cases each year for technical investigation stretching from ballistic comparisons to analysing the chemical contents of material under suspicion. Because of this it means, Dr Pavel claims, that police officers who are investigating a case may have to wait six months for technical reports.

On this score what the North Rhine-Westphalia chief inspector of Police, Herr Sehling, said applies, namely that good equipment can make the policeman's lot better, but can never replace one, single solitary police officer.

However, this does not necessarily apply in offices where the equipment is no less than catastrophic. Each of the specialists in uniform has to be his own secretary and his own messenger boy. There are neither dictaphones nor electric typewriters to make the job easier. And in two Federal states young police cadets do not even have typewriters to practise on during their training.

Friedel Gniesmer, a leader of the police union, says that there are still regulations that demand that the offices of senior police officials must have long curtains, those for junior officers must have short curtains and for the lower ranks there should be no curtains at all!

He lays a lot of the blame for inefficiency on inadequate equipment issued to the police, since sufficient money is never granted for the police to keep up with technological developments and the force is always lagging desperately far behind.

He said: "Whoever wants security must be prepared to pay for it."

From one of the police officers "at the front line" comes the suggestion that there should be inter-state research and investigation centres which would test industrial products to see if they could be of benefit for the police force. One example of equipment that might be useful is a new Japanese portable television recording unit.

Apart from this the centre would be able to prompt and encourage industry to produce equipment for the police on mass production lines.

If this were done it would no longer be necessary for chief police commissioner Rodewald to go to *Photokina*, the photographic equipment fair in Cologne, to find out what new equipment was being marketed that might make his job easier.

Ernst Dohlus

(Handelsblatt, 8 December 1970)

Busy season

During the 1969-70 season the one hundred subscriber organisations in the Federal Republic and West Berlin bought a total of 3,349,000 theatre tickets for their members.

Of this figure 2,142,000 tickets or 64 per cent of the total were for plays, 733,000 (22 per cent) for operas, 318,000 (nine per cent) for musicals and 85,000 (two per cent) for the ballet. 78,000 concert tickets were also bought.

Subscriber organisations arranged many special events for their members. These included a large number of lectures and discussion evenings, guided tours of theatres and museums, cabaret and film evenings and study tours to theatre towns at home and abroad.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 8 December 1970)

Saint 'Nick' bags 185,000 Marks

In December shops stay open all day on Saturday and at a store in Munich on the Stachus (Karlsplatz) a very special customer did some shopping. It was Father Christmas!

Actually this was not the jovial, generous old man. In fact the person to whom he was giving a Christmas present was himself, which all goes to show that he was not a genuine Santa Claus.

Just after closing time Saint Nick "nicked" 185,000 Marks (original reports said 300,000) and disappeared into thin air.

According to Munich police five minutes after closing time a man with a long white beard and a red cardboard hat appeared at the main cash-desk in the store as the sales-girls were reckoning up the day's takings.

The safe containing several plastic bags filled with cash was open. "Santa Claus" went up to the safe and began to load several of the plastic bags into his gift sack.

By the time the chief cashier had realised that this was no saintly benefactor, but an all-too-earthly criminal Father Christmas had filled his jute sack with money.

The chief cashier warned the Yuletide Saint not to play games, but suddenly found himself staring down the barrel of a pistol.

Saint Nick kept the staff at bay and made his escape. By the time the alarm signal was raised and the automatic doors had been closed Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer had taken him sailing away across the rooftops with his Christmas present to himself.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 7 December 1970)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Stolen carpet

Bonn's official red carpet, the most important piece of floor covering in this country, has been out of action but will soon be ready to grace the feet of VIPs again.

Mysterious thieves shortened the [illegible] metre-long carpet by three metres. But now the *Europäische Teppichgemeinschaft für Deutschland* has stated that it has a replacement ready.

The carpet society said recently in Wuppertal that visiting politicians in Bonn will soon be able to walk on the prescribed red runner once more.

This strange theft caused a good deal of embarrassment when the Turkish President Sunay visited this country recently. The missing three metres had to be made good with Persian carpets.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 4 December 1970)

Illegal meat

Although housewives may not be aware of this their cooking pots contain horse flesh and not beef, as is supposed.

There have been indications that recently considerable quantities of horse flesh have been smuggled from Argentina into this country.

The Düsseldorf security office reports that recently many cartons of meat whose labels had been mutilated contained instead of fillet steaks, steaks of horse flesh.

The route by which these illegal horse steaks reached this country has not yet been exposed.

A spokesman for the Düsseldorf customs office said: "We have no idea how these goods reached this country."

It is also unknown in which other Federal states, apart from North Rhine-Westphalia, this meat can be obtained.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 27 November 1970)

Male thieves

Men are generally speaking more likely to turn their hand to crime than women, but the picture is reversed in the case of shoplifting, according to a recent survey organised by a large chain of drugstores.

The figures published in Düsseldorf showed that around seventy-five per cent of light-fingered excursions into shops were by women.

One quarter of all who take the self-service idea too far are children under the age of fourteen. Their main target is the toy counter but for young female shoplifters up to the age of 21 cosmetics are a big attraction.

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday are the worst days for the light-fingered. The most popular time for the "I don't know how that came to be in my shopping bag" thief is between 10am and noon and between 3pm and 5pm, not, surprisingly, during the shopping rush-hour.

(WELT am SONNTAG, 29 November 1970)

Mature student

To keep boredom at bay a 52-year-old mother of eight children studied for ten semesters at university so as to obtain a doctorate in philosophy.

Barbara Wackernagel from Dortmund wrote a thesis on linguistics. She decided to take up her studies in 1965 "because the last of my children left home and it was too quiet for me."

(NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG, 2 December 1970)

■ SPORT

Yachtsmen set sights on 1972 Kiel Olympics regatta

Bernhard Beilken, head of a Bremen firm that manufactures racing sails for yachts and father of successful yachtsmen Hans and Berend Beilken, is quoted as once having said that "We would long have been out of business if we didn't do so much sailing ourselves."

Indeed, this country's and Europe's best yachtsmen are customers of the Bremen firm. The home-made success story of the Beilken brothers continues to do sailing and sailors in this country good service as they sail their way towards 1972 and the Kiel Olympic regatta.

And this country's most successful and promising yachtsmen in the Olympic categories are almost all professionals who manage to combine work and pleasure either because they deal in boats, like Flying Dutchman specialist Uli Libor of Hamburg, or because, like thirty-year-old ex-Flying Dutchman and now Tempest man Berend Beilken, they make the sails.

There is a third category, though, one that includes Olympic gold medallist and Lufthansa co-pilot Willi Kuhweide of Berlin who incidentally has also designed Finn dinghies but manages to find time to train in Kiel between flights.

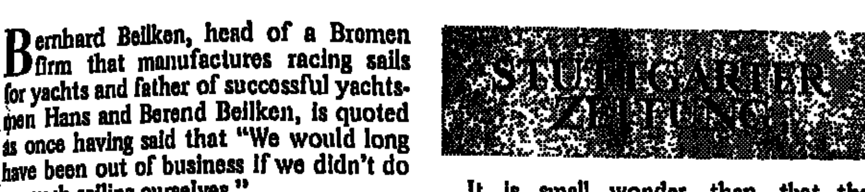
To this day Kuhweide has had the advantage of understanding superiors who well know that Lufthansa's image cannot suffer for having an Olympic gold medallist on its staff.

Uwe Mares, a great talent with the Finn Dinghy (Photos: Nordbild)

But many of this country's top-flight yachtsmen lack the time needed for the tough and time-taking training that, say, GDR yachtsmen benefit from.

Yachtsmen who want nowadays to hold their own in European or world championships or even the Olympics ought ideally to spend all season sailing from regatta to regatta and getting in a spot of training in between times.

To be able to do this one must either be a professional man who can spare the time, a wealthy man who can afford the money or a student who decides to write off several semesters and devote them entirely to sailing.





It is small wonder, then, that the Federal Republic Yachting Association has a shortage of really promising youngsters despite the fact that the facilities that can be put at their disposal are now better than ever.

At Schilksee, Kiel, where roughly seventy million Marks have been invested in Olympic facilities and 400 de luxe apartments are ready and waiting in the Olympic village the Association's own fleet of yachts lies at anchor.

But very few promising yachtsmen who are eligible to use the boats regularly take the opportunity of so doing. Second rate yachtsmen jump at the opportunity but the fleet, consisting of two boats in each of the Olympic categories, was bought specially for Olympic training.

Hans-Joachim Petersen, sport secretary of the Association, is still optimistic. "In a more year," he says, "you cannot achieve epoch-making changes in our sport. More time is needed.

"Older yachtsmen in particular have a mentality of their own. We have trouble enough suggesting to them that there might be some point in fitness training or making a certain amount of training obligatory.

"If only for this reason we will have no alternative but systematically to introduce youngsters into the national team and concentrate on promoting willing youngsters.

"Members of the national team are already obliged to sail at least six weeks during the season. We are also working out a fitness programme for the higher echelons in terms of performance."

A start has already been made in cooperation with the physical education department of Kiel University, where a sailor trainer course with the accent on fitness is under way.

Seventy-eight yachtsmen, six boats in each of the six Olympic disciplines, go to make up the national team as it at present stands, but on 30 June 1971, after the first spring regattas and Kiel Week, there will be a major break – and the sheep will probably be sorted out from the goats.

In point of fact there are no more than half a dozen really first-rate yachtsmen in the country by international standards.

In the Finn Dinghy class ("our best by international standards" – Petersen) Willi Kuhweide and Uwe Mares of Hamburg remain the first choice but after spectacular successes this season Thomas Jungbluth, 21, of Hamburg is rated one of the most promising youngsters in the world.

It is partly on his account that Willi Kuhweide and his experienced associate Karsten Meyer are changing over to Stars next season. Petersen reckons that Kuhweide and Meyer stand a fair chance of international success, especially as ex-Star man Hans Ravensborg has made them a present of a new boat.

In the Flying Dutchman class Uli Libor of Hamburg, the eternal runner-up to Olympic gold medallist, world and European champion Rodney of England, remains unchallenged even though Kurt Prenzler of Hanover is making a name for himself.

As for the new Tempest class, which will be making its Olympic debut at Kiel, there are no favourites as yet, neither in this country nor elsewhere. The class is too new for any predictions to be made.

Hans-Joachim Petersen reckons that old hand Berend Beilken will be well in the running, though Beilken will also be sailing Finn Dinghy so as to have more than one iron in the fire.

In the oldest Olympic class of them all, the Dragon, this country is an international also-ran. It is in the Soling, the class that will be replacing the eighteen-footers at Kiel, as well.

There are no longer any miracles in yachting. It is not a sport for gentlemen but a tough competitive discipline. This automatically limits this country's hopes of Olympic medals at Kiel in 1972.

One medal in each category would be wishful thinking, but medals in the Finn dinghy, the Flying Dutchman, the Star and possibly the Tempest class are not out of the question.

These, then, are the six Olympic disciplines:

Finn dinghy: crew of one, ten square metres of sail.

Flying Dutchman: two-man crew, fifteen square metres of sail.

Tempest: two-man crew, thirty square yards of sail.

Soling: three-man crew, 260 square feet of sail.

Star: crew of two, 34 square yards of sail.

Dragon: crew of three, 35 square yards of sail.

Karl Morgenstern

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 12 December 1970)



Flying Dutchman ace Uli Libor

Rudi Altig to coach amateurs

DIE WELT

Rudi Altig of Cologne and road-racing amateurs have come to terms. This country's leading professional cyclist, who is now nearing the end of his career, is next year to help train the amateurs for the Munich Olympics.

The proposal was made by mail-order magnate and Olympic show-jumping gold medallist Josef Neckermann, chairman of the Sports Aid Foundation, who has agreed on behalf of his organisation to foot Altig's training bill.

Karl Ziegler of Mannheim, road-racing trainer and the man who is considered to have discovered Altig's talent and was certainly largely responsible for his rise to the top, commented that he expected great things to come of cooperation with his former protégé. This viewpoint settled the matter.

(DIE WELT, 16 December 1970)

Olympics report to Bundestag

All facilities for the 1972 summer Olympics in Munich are to be ready for use by the end of 1971. Work on the regatta facilities at Kiel will be completed by spring 1972.

These deadlines are contained in the fifth intermediate report on the forthcoming Olympics submitted to the Bundestag by the Federal government.

At the same time Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Cabinet Minister responsible for sport, requested the Bundestag to postpone the deadline for submission of the report on overall finances until 15 February 1971.

Herr Genscher felt that a new specific cost estimate would not be available until mid-January.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 5 December 1970)

Doping checks query

The Federal government sees no reason for assuming that drugs represent a threat to sport in this country, Wolfram Dorn, parliamentary under-secretary to the Ministry of the Interior, told the Bundestag recently.

Replying to a question submitted by Christian Social Union member Dr Erich Riedl of Munich, Dorn noted that little in the way of doping checks is at present carried out by sports organisations here. Exact details on the subject were thus not available.

The establishment of a central doping centre to carry out checks as suggested by Dr Riedl was, he felt, a subject for discussion at the Federal Republic sports conference.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 5 December 1970)

Aden	SA $ 0.05	Colombia	col. $ 1.—	Formosa	NT $ 5.—	Indonesia	Rp. 15.—	Malawi	11 d	Paraguay	G. 15.—	Sudan	PT 5.—
Afghanistan	Af 10.—	Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—	France	FF 0.60	Iran	Rl 10.—	Malaysia	M. $ 0.40	Peru	S. 3.50	Syria	£ S 0.50
Algeria	DA 0.60	Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—	Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Iraq	50 fils	Mali	FM 60.—	Philippines	P. phil 0.60	Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Angola	Esc. 1.—	Costa Rica	C 0.85	Gambia	11 d	Ireland	11 d	Mexico	$ 1.50	Poland	Zl. 0.50	Thailand	B 3.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—	Cuba	P 0.13	Germany	DM 1.—	Israel	I £ 0.40	Morocco	DM —.65	Portugal	Esc. 1.—	Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Australia	10 c.	Cyprus	11 d	Ghana	cedi 0.12	Italy	Lir. 80	Mozambique	Esc. 1.—	Rhodesia	11 d	Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Austria	S 3.—	Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.60	Great Britain	11 d	Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Nepal	Mohur 1.—	Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—	Turkey	T £ 1.25
Belgium	bfr 6.—	Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Greece	Dr 4.—	Jamaica	11 d	Netherlands	Hfl 0.50	Rumania	Leu 0.50	Tunisia	65 M
Bolivia	$ b 1.50	Denmark	dkr 0.90	Guatemala	Q 0.15	Japan	Yen 50	Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25	Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60	Uganda	EAs 0.25
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35	Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15	Guayana	BWI $ 0.20	Jordan	50 fils	New Zealand	9 c.	Sweden	skr 0.60	UAR	PT 5.—
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05	Ecuador	S 2.50	Guinea	F.G. 30.—	Kenya	EAs 0.25	Nicaragua	C 0.65	Switzerland	FS 0.50	Uruguay	P 20.—
Burma	K 0.60	El Salvador	C 0.30	Haiti	G 0.65	Kuwait	50 fils	Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—	USA	$ 0.20
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—	Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30	Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20	Laos	Kip 60.—	Nigeria	11 d	Sierra Leone	Le 0.10	USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Cambodia	R 4.40	Fiji	11 d	Honduras	L 0.25	Lebanon	P 40.—	Norway	nkr 0.90	Somalia	Sh So 0.90	Venezuela	B 0.60
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—	Finland	fmk 0.50	Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70	Liberia	Lib $ 0.15	Pakistan	Rs 0.60	South Africa	Rand 0.10	Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20			Hungary	Ft 1.—	Libya	50 Mills	Panama	B. 0.15	South Korea	Won 35.—	Zambia	11 d
Ceylon	cR —.60			Iceland	Kr 5.—	Luxembourg	lfr 6			S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—		
Chile	Esc. 0.60			India	Rs 0.80	Madagascar	FM 30.—			Spain	Pts 6.—		